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COMMENT OF THE DAY

A Day To Observe

WORLD Health Day, which is being observed today, deserves more than casual interest on the part of Hongkong. The occasion possesses special significance to the Colony inasmuch that at this moment representatives of the World Health Organisation are here to give practical expression to WHO's declared aims and objectives by assisting the local authorities in their immunising campaign against Tuberculosis. Thus to Hongkong, World Health Day should mean something more than a selected anniversary designed to publicise the activities of WHO; it calls for a Colony-wide appreciation of the urgent necessity for improving and increasing still further facilities for tackling our manifold health problems. The BCG - vaccine campaign against Tuberculosis is a typical example, and the fact that the World Health Organisation is identifying itself actively and in a practical manner with this effort to reduce the incidence of TB in Hongkong is gratifying.

IT is constantly being emphasised by the World Health Organisation that the purpose of its existence is not only to wage a battle against disease, but to strive unceasingly for the establishment of health in all parts of the earth. For this reason great stress is laid on education of the public as a necessary foundation for the help that science can give towards achieving and maintaining health. The principle has been wholeheartedly embraced by the Colony's health authorities and a recent report paid particular attention to the subject. Thus, while the BCG immunising campaign represents a vital feature of Government's struggle to contain and eventually reduce the incidence of TB, it is by no means the only activity directed at raising local health standards. The programme includes the promotion of physical, mental and social well-being, particularly among the under-privileged classes by stimulating interest in personal hygiene and improving nutritional standards. World Health Day is a valuable reminder of the need for capturing to the full public interest in this ambitious project.

Reds Promise Immunity To Returned Prisoners

CONCILIATORY STATEMENT

Attitude Changes

Munsan, Apr. 7.

The Reds today promised immunity to prisoners who are returned to them—even those who apparently renounced Communism.

The unprecedented conciliatory statement, made by order of the Korean People's armed forces and Chinese People's Volunteers, was broadcast in the Korean language last night (Sunday) on Pyongyang Radio, and repeated soon afterwards in Chinese on the Peking Radio.

It even promised restoration of "peaceful livelihood" to prisoners held by the Allies who have tattooed anti-Communist sentiments on their body.

Early today (Monday) Air Force Brigadier General William P. Nuckols, the United Nations Command spokesman, said the Allied armistice camp had no immediate interpretation or comment on the broadcast.

The statement came as vital Agenda Four discussions continued in recess while staff officers of both sides worked on "additional avenues for discussion of the remaining problems."

The recess on the prisoner of war talks began on Friday after 10 consecutive secret meetings. Unofficial reports indicated the recess would end within four or five days. Meanwhile there was speculation here that the staff officers could be winding up the POW exchange problem.

In order to protect prisoners in their hands from possible revenge by the Communists the Allies have strongly clung to their principle in armistice talks —that no prisoner should be returned against his will. The Reds have demanded the return of all prisoners and the broadcast last night indicated a softening toward some form of compromise.

3-MINUTES SESSION

The Item Three talks on policing an armistice lasted only three minutes yesterday.

Red journalists at Panmunjom — who often serve as propaganda voices for their side — maintained for a third day that the Reds seek a cleanup compromise on remaining Item Three problems. Red delegates have stated no such desire for compromise inside the armistice text, the UN says.

The Red newsmen, however, said Red delegates were hinting that they will withdraw the nomination of Soviet Russia as a "neutral" truce inspector if the UN Command would drop its demand for a ban on airfields rehabilitation.

Last night's Korean language broadcast from Pyongyang and Peking said:

"The Korean People's armed forces and the Chinese People's Volunteers have consistently been proposing from the beginning of the ceasefire talks that both sides release and repatriate all prisoners.

"This logical stand will not be affected by the fact that some of our personnel interned have inscribed (tattooed) letters on their arms, have produced documents or have done similar acts expressing their desires.

"We know full well that all such actions done while held have never been done of their free will and also that all our people taken prisoner desire to return home.

"In our statements given the other side we guaranteed that all our prisoners who returned will participate in work of peace with help of their families and that their peaceful livelihood will be restored."

SIGNIFICANT CHANGE

One outstanding thing noted about the Red broadcast statement was that it spoke of Red prisoners in Allied hands tattooing themselves. Previous broadcasts and official statements at Panmunjom have accused the Allies of forcibly tattooing prisoners.

Also conciliatory in tone although presented as a "furious protest" was the Reds' complaint at Panmunjom yesterday accusing UNC planes of attacking supply vehicles of the Red delegation on the Kaesong-Pyongyang highway.

The protest said two Allied planes strafed the convoy at 11.45 a.m. on April 5 and that one truck was completely destroyed.

"Nine personnel of our delegation were wounded, three of them critically," stated the protest, which was handed to Air Force Colonel Andrew J. Kinney, the senior Allied liaison officer.

The Reds "requested" that the Allies deal with the alleged violation "speedily and responsibly".

But in contrast to other protests the one yesterday did not "demand" any punishment of the pilots involved.

Col Kinney said the charge would be duly investigated. He said Reds did not seem angry in presenting the protest but "strictly business-like."

Brig. Nuckols estimated today that fewer words were spoken at the Item Three meeting than at any armistice session since the truce talks began last July 10.—Associated Press.

Move Into New Home

Seretse Khama, exiled Chief of the Bamangwato tribe and his English wife, Ruth, with their 20-month-old daughter, Jacqueline, have just moved into a new house with half an acre of garden, called The Knoll, in Starrocks Lane, Chipstead, Surrey, England. The house has been rented from an Anglo-Iranian oil official.—London Express.

TAFT OR EISENHOWER?

Michigan Remains Undecided

Washington, Apr. 6.

Michigan Republicans were undecided last night about their preference between General Eisenhower and Senator Taft as Republican Party candidate for President of the United States.

Out of the 46 delegates chosen at Detroit for the Republican national Congress to be held in Chicago next July, 33 were not publicly committed to support any particular candidate.

Among the remaining 13, seven expressed themselves in favour of General Eisenhower and six for Senator Taft.

Michigan's Democratic Party convention will not be held until May 10.

Yesterday's Republican Party convention ends a week in which the political race in both camps became a free one for all.

Idaho Republicans also named their delegates to the national convention yesterday.

They adopted a resolution saying that they were not instructing their 14 delegates on how to vote, "on the definite understanding that delegates should be honour bound" to support Senator Taft "to every reasonable extent."

Meanwhile, Senator Taft, fresh from victories in the Nebraska and Wisconsin primaries, today wound up his methodical campaign in Illinois where he is expected to win again in Tuesday's polling.

Senator Taft's only opponents in the Illinois Republican primary are Mr Harold Stassen and a local hotel owner.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

"Write-in" votes are permitted under special conditions. People who want to support General Eisenhower must spell his name correctly and put a specified letter alongside.

Illinois sends 60 delegates to the Republican national convention in Chicago in July. Thirty delegates pledged to Taft are not opposed.

The latest forecasts suggest that General Eisenhower will get at least 10 delegates.

Taft, who has the State Republican Party machine solidly behind him, is expected to get up to 70 per cent of the vote in the "popularity" poll.

Senator Estes Kefauver is the only official delegate in the Democratic primary but is expected to meet some opposition from write-ins for Governor Adlai Stevenson who has come under steadily growing pressure to run for President since Truman announced he is opposed to the writing-in of his name in the Illinois primary.—Reuter.

Drought Kills Off Cattle

Darwin, Apr. 6.

Station managers in a vast area of Northern Australia are still helplessly standing by watching thousands of cattle die as the unbroken drought continues to turn the area into a dust bowl.

With the annual season of the monsoon rains now almost finished, the prospects on the cattle stations are grim.

More than 300,000 head of cattle in the drought area—embracing the Kimberleys, the Gulf country, and northwest and southwest Queensland—are estimated to have perished in the drought already.—Reuter.

Tories Lose Essex County Council To Socialists

Election Landslide Continues

London, Apr. 6.

Socialists wrested complete control from the Conservatives on one council when they continued to make heavy gains in Britain's county elections today.

Following up its big victory in London, the Labour Party emerged with a clear majority when results were announced in the neighbouring county of Essex.

It was the first time the Labour Party had won control of a county council from its opponents since the county elections started on Thursday.

With a Socialist gain of 31 seats—18 from the Conservatives and 12 from Independents and one new seat—the new Essex Council has 52 Labour members, 25 Conservatives and 18 Independents.

Labour won Essex in 1946 but lost it again in 1949, when the Conservatives secured 38 seats, the Independents 35 and Labour only 21.

Before the elections, the Socialists—who were defeated in the Parliamentary polls last October—had control of eight county councils.

So far, they have retained London with a record majority of 55, Staffordshire with 11 gains and yesterday consolidated their dominant position in Derbyshire by winning 13 new seats.

The other Labour-controlled councils will be elected tomorrow and Tuesday. All 62 county councils in England and Wales will have been re-elected by Wednesday.

BIG GAINS

Throughout the country the Labour Party has recorded big gains at the expense of the Conservatives.

The Socialists attribute the successes to dissatisfaction with Mr Winston Churchill's Conservative Government over cuts in the food subsidies and economies in the State Health Service but regional issues played a big part in the Labour progapanda — for the county polls.

Fifty-one county councils have been elected to date. Five will be chosen tomorrow, three on Tuesday and the remaining three on Wednesday.

Some of the Labour successes included these:

Cheshire, seven from the Conservatives.

Leicestershire three from Conservatives and one from Independents.

Gloucestershire four from Independents and two from the Conservatives.

Hampshire eight from the Conservatives.

Merionethshire (Wales), one from Independents.

East Suffolk, five from Independents and two from the Conservatives.

Lincolnshire (Kesteven) four from Independents.—Reuter.

PRESS COMMENT

Melbourne, Apr. 7.

The independent Melbourne Age said today that Labour victories in the British local elections suggested that people were undecided on whether they had had enough of Socialism or not.

"For the Conservative Churchill Government, which is only freshly back in power, the results must have come as a political rebuff," it said.

"In a period of five months it seems evident that the Conservative Government in Britain is not as firmly established as many people had thought."—Reuter.

Indian Envoy Sees Stalin

Frank Discussion

Moscow, Apr. 6.

The Indian Ambassador to Russia, Mr S. Radhakrishnan, who saw Marshal Stalin for half an hour yesterday, said today "There is no outstanding problem now dividing the world which cannot be settled by discussion and negotiation."

In a statement to the Press, Mr Radhakrishnan added: "It would be unwise to bang the door against every approach and give up the task as impossible.

"No effort should be wasted and every effort should be made to get the top people together."

Mr Radhakrishnan, who was the first Ambassador to see the Russian leader in more than two years, said he had a very frank discussion of many of the issues now agitating the world.

Earlier today the Ambassador declined to give details of the discussion which ranged over Indian, Asian and international problems. But it was understood here that he got the impression that the Soviet Union is ready and willing to discuss all outstanding issues dividing East and West today.

IN GOOD HUMOUR

Mr Radhakrishnan said today that Premier Stalin wore his Marshal's uniform, looked as usual and was in good humour.

Mr Radhakrishnan is the only Ambassador that Marshal Stalin has received both at the beginning and close of his tour of duty. He has been nominated by the Indian Congress for the Vice-Presidency of India and leaves for India on Monday.

He is sending a report on the meeting to India.

All Moscow newspapers today printed the announcement of the meeting in big type on their front pages without editorial comment.

Later Mr Radhakrishnan received the Indian delegation attending the World Economic Conference. Three Britons to the Economic Conference attended the reception which was held at the Indian Embassy. They were Lord Boyd Orr, former Director-General of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation, Lady Boyd Orr, and Mr Henry C. Usborne, Labour Member of Parliament for the Yardley Division of Birmingham.—Reuter.

China Mail's New Star Contributor

Beverley Baxter, MP, one of the most brilliant critics and political commentators of the day, is now writing for the China Mail.

He capped a dazzling career in Fleet Street by entering Parliament as a Conservative in 1935. He is still an MP and still a journalist and drama critic.

Mr Baxter is writing for the China Mail a fortnightly letter centred around the political scene at Westminster, but covering also the latest developments in the international political situation. Mr Baxter's writing is as incisive as it is authoritative.

His first contribution, which is a brilliant analysis of Russia's constantly changing diplomacy, appears today on Page 4.

Talks To Avert Strike Broken Off

Situation "Critical"

New York, Apr. 6.

Last-minute negotiations called to avert a nationwide telephone strike on Monday broke off after only 45 minutes today and a union official said the situation was critical.

Ernest Weaver, director of District 10 of the CIO Communications Workers of America, said an impasse was reached between Union officials and representatives of Western Electric Company.

The 15,500 workers in District 10 are the key men in the threatened nationwide strike. They install equipment and repair switchboards across the country.

Their picket lines generally are respected by other workers, such as phone operators, and thus a complete tie-up is expected.

SEPARATE SESSIONS

If a strike does occur, it could seriously hamper the country's communications. About 35,000 Western Union employees across the country have been on strike since Thursday.

Federal mediators persuaded both parties to hold separate sessions in the hope that a settlement could be reached before the installation men are called out at 6 a.m. on Monday.

District 10 of the Communications Workers has demanded a wage increase and a seniority clause in contracts. Mr Weaver would not reveal how much money the Union wanted.

He said today's negotiations ended after the company had refused to increase its offer of increases of 10-12 cents an hour.—United Press.

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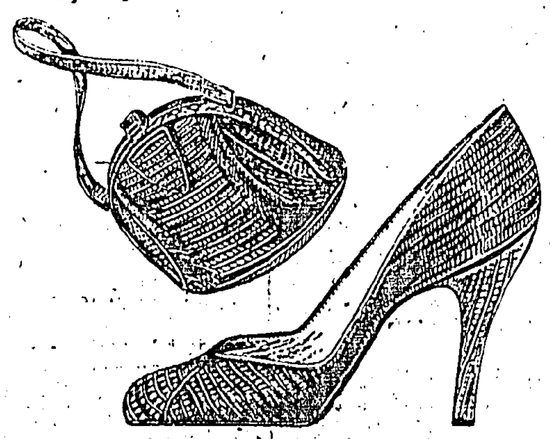

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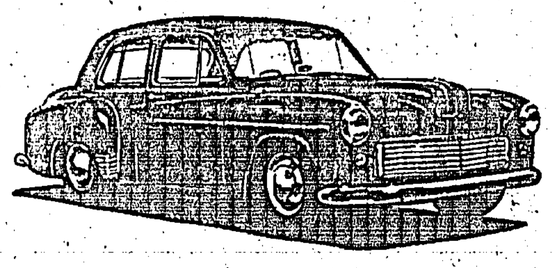

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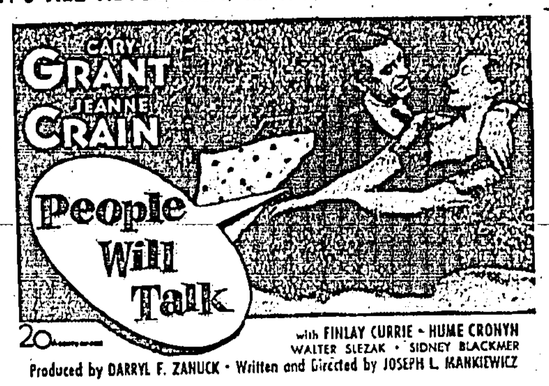
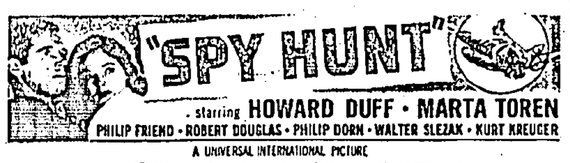
IT'S ALL ABOUT MEN, MAIDS, MORALS AND MORE!



COMMENCING TO-MORROW



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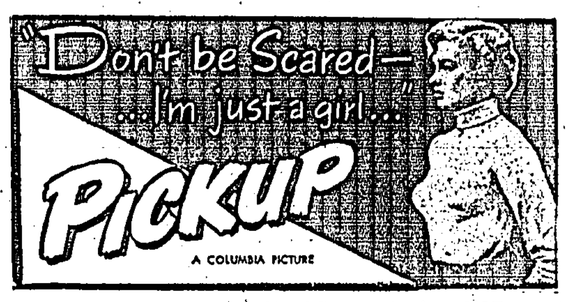
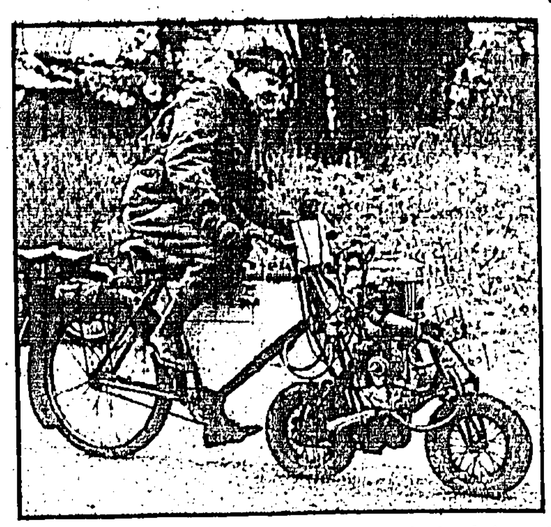


CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 16 ARE NOT RECOMMENDED TO SEE THIS PICTURE.

Chuggernaut Shows Paces



Despite its bewildering array of gears, wheels, chains and cables this vintage Slinger 4½ horsepower tricycle—51 years old—chugged merrily from Tattenham Corner, Surrey, to Brighton in the Pioneer Run for "Historic Interest" motor-cycles.—Reuterphoto.

The Man In The Moon DOES Influence You!

New York, Apr. 6.

The Man in the Moon DOES influence your emotions.

Moonshine? Not at all, says a sober scientist, Dr Leonard J. Ravitz, of Duke University Medical School, and his "not at all" is based on two years of research.

His report to the Southern Medical Association is out. Like so many scientific discoveries, this "proof" of an old wife's tale is an accident.

He started out to do research on a 1935 scientific discovery. The discovery was that we all give out electrical rays somewhat like wireless stations, rays which can be measured.

Dr Ravitz started systematically and statistically to measure the rays of normal and insane people.

He measured patients at Duke Hospital, Durham, North Carolina, and the Veterans' Hospital, Roanoke, Virginia.

Imagine the doctor's emotions when he stumbled on a great surprise. By plotting day-to-day measurements he found that marked emotional changes coincide not only with phases of the moon but changes of the sun and the seasons.

AFFECTED MORE

These changes of moods and feelings occur in both sane and insane. But mental patients show them more. They are much more emotionally disturbed than the rest of us during the new and full moon and in the spring or winter.

In the psychiatric wards of the two hospitals there is more unrest phases of the new and full moons than at other periods.

For five months he measured one mental patient's changing electrical rays and moods. Then he mathematically predicted his behaviour for the rest of the year.

He tells the Southern Medical Association that the prediction stood up.

Ravitz's work is based on the "electro-magnetic theory of life." The theory: In the cosmos there is a universal electrical field. It influences living and non-living matter. All living things, from bacteria to man, respond to it. And they in turn influence the cosmic electricity.

Of his own work Ravitz says: "This does not mean that we can diagnose insanity. But now we can definitely diagnose changing degrees of mental disturbance."—London Express Service.

MP Attacks Exclusion Of Seretse

London, Apr. 6.

Mr Fenner Brockway, left wing Labour Member of Parliament, said today that by permanently excluding Seretse Khama from the chieftainey of the Bamangwato tribe Britain had missed an opportunity to make Bechuanaland a model of racial equality, social justice and economic development.

He told a "Human Rights and Africa" rally in Trafalgar Square that the example of racial equality in Bechuanaland would have done more than anything to undermine injustice in the Union.

Mr Brockway said: "South Africa's incorporation of South-West Africa, despite United Nations opposition, is an act of aggression which should be opposed by all United Nations members."

He paid tribute to the Reverend Michael Scott's championship of the South-West African tribes. Deploring the ban on Mr Scott's entry to the Union, he said: "A small, prejudiced man of poisoned mind is keeping out of his land one of the great men among human beings of this period."

Mr Brockway, who is Chairman of the Congress of Peoples Against Imperialism, affirmed "our solidarity with Africans, Indians and the coloured people of the Union who are today beginning their struggle to demand the same human rights as any white person in that country."

A message from Reverend Scott was read at the meeting. It said: "South Africa will only be free from the rule of intolerance when the peoples of all communities have learned the art of non-violent resistance to it."—Reuter.

LOST PICTURE WON PRIZE

Paris, Apr. 6.

Odette Guyot, a 28-year-old Paris school teacher, is leaving shortly on a free trip to Egypt —the first prize in an international drawing competition organised by the Cairo Society of the Friends of the Arts for children under 14.

Her drawing of sphinxes and pyramids was done when Odette was 13, submitted back in 1937 and then became lost somewhere between her school and the Egyptian capital. It turned up this year and carried off the honours.

Despite the time lag the Egyptian Embassy here has insisted that Odette take the trip to Egypt, saying that at—her age she will be better able to appreciate the charms and riches of the country.—Reuter.

Teheran To Ask Delay In Hague Hearings

Mossadegh Wants To Attend

Teheran, Apr. 6.

The Iranian Government has decided that the request for a hearing by the International Court of Justice on the Anglo-Iranian oil dispute be postponed one month, until June, a member of the Mixed Oil Commission disclosed today.

The delay would be asked so that the Premier, Dr Mohammed Mossadegh, could attend the hearings at the Hague.

Persian Government sources said the note containing the request was likely to be submitted by the Iranian Minister in the Dutch capital within the next two days.

Sources said Dr Mossadegh would be unable to attend sittings this month because he must not be absent for the formal inauguration of the new Majlist Lower House, which probably would not be completed before June.

The Government and the Mixed Oil Commission had agreed to the postponement.

Meanwhile, Persian Government circles appeared to be nonplussed over what they claimed to be Britain's "withdrawal of recognition of oil nationalisation in Persia."

Iran, which so far has considered her case airtight following the United Kingdom's acceptance of the nationalisation principle under the Harriman formula, was disturbed by a note received from Britain which was published with Iran's reply yesterday.

SOLE PURPOSE

The note made it clear that the United Kingdom had accepted the nationalisation principle in order to make negotiations toward settlement of the oil dispute possible.

Once the talks were broken off, the British said, it became apparent that recognition did not hold good.

Dr Ali Shayegan, prominent member of the Oil Commission, said Britain accepted nationalisation unconditionally and therefore could not withdraw recognition of it now.

Moreover, he said, Britain's latest stand would not hold water in a court of law.

Dr Shayegan said Dr Mossadegh would go to the Hague solely for the purpose of submitting certain oral explanations. He added that Iran would never regard herself as a "party to be judged".—United Press.

Suspension Of Official

Bonn, Apr. 6.

Werner von Barden, a senior official of the Foreign Office's Legal Department, has been suspended pending inquiries into his past, a Government spokesman said today.

A Parliamentary Committee is investigating the Nazi pasts of Foreign Office officials following Press and radio criticisms of their activities under the Nazi Foreign Minister, Joachim von Ribbentrop.

Von Barden, Nazi Minister in Brussels, is accused of not speaking the truth at the Nuremberg War Crimes trial, the spokesman added. Von Barden denied that the Foreign Office knew of deportations and persecution of Jews in Belgium when he appeared as a witness in the trial of Ernst von Weizsaecker and other senior Nazi Foreign Office officials.—Reuter.

Japs Fighting In Indo-China

Yokohama, Apr. 6.

The Kyodo News Agency reported that a Japanese deserter from Ho Chih-min's Vietminh rebel army in Indo-China returned to Japan aboard the French liner La Marseillaise.

Kazuichi Yamashita, 38, former Japanese army civilian reporter, said there are several thousand Japanese soldiers among the Vietminh army ranks who are anxious to come home.—United Press.

Children Drink Poison Mixture

Melbourne, Apr. 6.

Two Queensland children died after they drank a hair tonic containing the poison potassium bromate mixed with a soft drink.

The poison is used by some Australian bakers in minute quantities as a bread improver. Agitation has begun for the banning of its use and the substitution of the safer Vitamin C.—Reuter.

U.S. Move To Restrict Imports

Washington, Apr. 5.

New moves to restrict imports of foreign goods made from scarce materials are under way in the American Congress.

Manufacturing interests, backed by strong Congressional groups, are demanding limitations or cuts on imports of articles made from materials such as cobalt, copper, chromiee, nickel, brass and steel.

They argue that while curtailment of materials to domestic industry is enforced by Government order, foreign firms can capture much of the American market.

Other manufacturers supporting the restriction moves are makers of band instruments, steel pins, needles, garden tools, electrical equipment, pens and pencils.

Some Congressional sources see an even chance that Congress may approve some form of limitation in imported goods containing scarce materials.

But the State Department and the Office of Defence Mobilisation are opposing any new legislative restrictions.

Their position is that the situation could be met through approaches to foreign governments to establish allocations of scarce materials to private industry on the lines of the American system.

The State Department is also known to feel that inflation could be encouraged in the United States if imports were not permitted to meet some of the market shortages created by any restrictions on home production.—Reuter.

HOPEFUL OF SETTLEMENT

Darwin, Apr. 6.

All the parties in the Kashmir question were hopeful of an early settlement, according to the Australian External Affairs Minister, Mr R. G. Casey, just back from last month's Colombo Plan Consultative Committee's annual meeting at Karachi.

"Although the Kashmir problem was not officially discussed at the meeting, delegates outside the conference room showed keen interest in it," he said.

The atmosphere at Karachi was full of possibility for a settlement of the question, Mr Casey declared.—Reuter.

Bonn Diplomat In Japan

Yokohama, Apr. 6.

Dr Heinrich Northe, first West German diplomatic representative to Japan, arrived here yesterday aboard the French liner La Marseillaise accompanied by his wife and son.

Dr Northe was formerly director of the Far Eastern Bureau of the German Foreign Ministry.

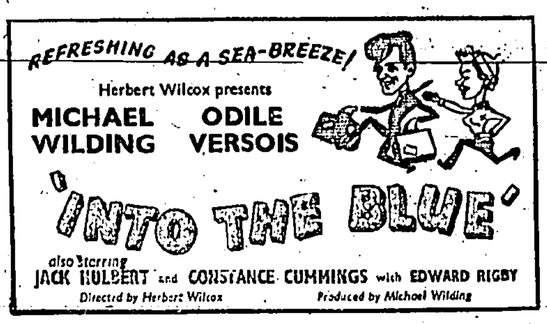
Also arriving were 169 French, British and Asiatic tourists.—United Press.

SHOWING TO-DAY — QUEEN'S · ALHAMBRA — AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M.

LEE Theatre

★ SHOWING TO-DAY ★

4 SHOWS AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



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Screenplay by Harry Brown & Michael Wilson · Based on the novel AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY by THEODORE DREISER and the PATRICK KEARNEY play adapted from the novel

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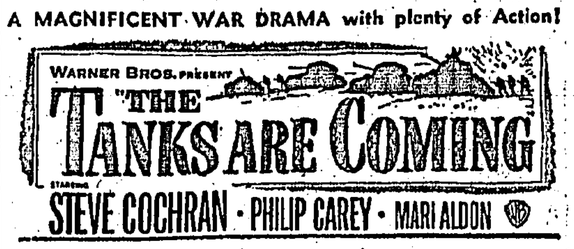

To-morrow: "INSIDE THE WALLS OF FOLSOM PRISON"

DON'T WASTE WATER

PRESS PHOTOGRAPHS

Copies of photographs taken by the South China Morning Post, South China Sunday Post-Herald, and China Mail Staff Photographers are on view in the Morning Post Building.

ORDERS BOOKED

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TESTING EYESIGHT & FITTING GLASSES

You incur no obligation by consulting us at any time about your eyesight or the glasses you are now wearing.

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GAS ERUPTION CAUSES PANIC

The area being barricaded off after an eruption of methane gas from a shaft which had been sunk in the neighbourhood of Cremona, Italy, during oil prospecting. The eruption caused panic in the neighbouring villages. A deep rumble gave the first warning and then the gas spurted to a column 300 ft high which soon caught fire.—Express Service.

Warren Austin Lashes Out At French Atom Scientist

'Prostituting Science'

United Nations, Apr. 6.

The American United Nations delegate, Mr Warren Austin, today accused Professor Frederic Joliot Curie, French Communist atom scientist, of prostituting science by lending his name to the Soviet charge that the U.S. is waging germ warfare in Korea.

"If you want anybody to believe you have a shred of independence or integrity," Mr Austin said in the letter, "you would join with fair-minded people everywhere in demanding an on-the-spot investigation of these Communist charges.

"If you have the slightest concern for poor people suffering from epidemics, which regularly ravage this area and which apparently threaten to get out of control, you can support the humanitarian efforts of the World Health Organisation..... to help stop the spread of these epidemics."

Mr Austin's letter was prompted by one sent him by Joliot Curie—from Prague in which the French scientist said he was "shocked" at the news that United States planes made use of germ weapons.

Joliot Curie, dismissed two years ago as chief of France's atomic project, wrote: "This horrible deed that could never have been contemplated by a sane mind has none the less been committed. It is a sequel to the no less monstrous crime of destruction of hundreds of thousands of civilians in a few seconds by the atom bomb at Hiroshima and Nagasaki."

Mr Austin said: "Your most recent communication despatched from behind the Iron Curtain to help propagate the lies of the Kremlin in charging United Nations forces with dropping insects to cause epidemics in North Korea and China, prostitutes science in the interest of political propaganda."

Mr Austin added he was enclosing an article from the New York Times "in which competent scientists expose the faked and clumsy photos offered by the Chinese Communists in a vain effort to support their charges. One must feel sorry to witness a man of your scientific training promoting a propaganda campaign based upon the tricks of charlatans who are afraid to submit their so-called evidence to impartial scientific scrutiny."—United Press.

TESTIMONY IN U.S.

Washington, Apr. 6.

Representative Robert L. F. Sikes, (Democrat, Florida), Chairman of the House of Representatives' Appropriations Sub-Committee, said yesterday that America was at least on a par with Russia and other nations in developing germ warfare.

After hearing secret testimony before the Sub-Committee, Mr Sikes said that the programme presented by army officers was concerned mainly with studying how to protect people, crops and livestock in America from bacteriological attack.

But it was also designed to let the United States "if necessary, carry the war to the other fellows."

Mr Sikes said that the secret hearings had convinced him that there was not a single bit of truth to Communist claims that the United Nations was waging germ warfare in Korea.

Testimony released by the Sub-Committee showed that the army wants more money to study bacteriological warfare.

Major-General E. T. Dullene, chief of the Chemical Corps, testified that the army considered bacteriological war very urgent.

It wanted more money because:

1.—"People are paying more attention to bacteriological warfare and taking it seriously."

2.—"There are new laboratories that will be coming into operation next year on a greater scale, laboratories that we have under construction at certain places."

The means of delivering germs to enemy territory was simple, requiring only equipment of a type with which the army was already well stocked, such as the containers used currently for dropping propaganda leaflets, Mr Sikes said.—Reuter.

Gulped Way To Title

Seattle, Wash., Apr. 5.

Dick Taylor gulped down 337 clams in 10 minutes today to retain his world championship title in the fifth annual International Pacific free style clam-eating contest association tournament.

Taylor swallowed the bivalves at the rate of 33.7 per minute.

As a reward he was adorned with a crown of clam shells and kissed by Miss Halibut Cheeks of 1952, the Queen of "Seattle waterfront halibut head choppers-off."

Taylor outgulped six other men.—United Press.

VOTE FOR A HOUSEWIFE

Omaha, Apr. 6.

One woman voter in the Nebraska primary election became so confused that she wrote her own name down on the ballot paper, then came back and asked if she could have another, it was revealed today.

The officials refused so one housewife got one vote for President.

H-BOMB IS NOW BEING BUILT

Senator's Statement

Washington, Apr. 6.

Senator Brien MacMahon, Chairman of the Congressional Atomic Energy Committee, said in a radio broadcast tonight that the building of a hydrogen bomb is under way at the present time in the United States.

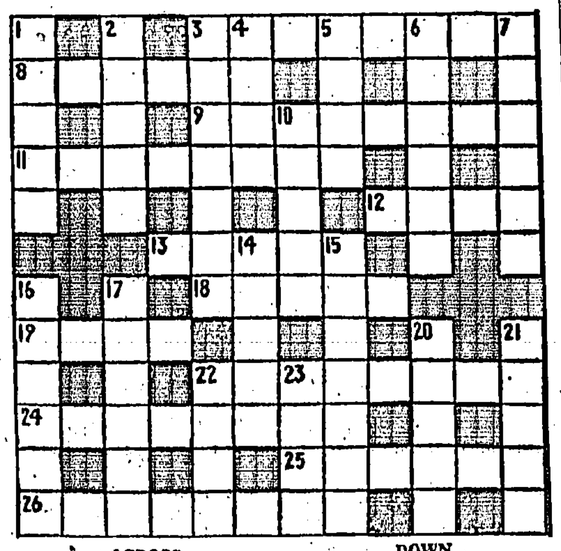
But he did not indicate whether scientists were still trying to find out if the super-weapon could be built or had actually begun work on a bomb.

The Senator was asked in a radio interview what could be done to avoid war with Russia.

He replied, "We must continue to build up our influence and strength.

"I do not retreat from what I said in February, 1950, when we talked about building a hydrogen bomb which is under way at the present time."—Reuter.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

3 Lent a hand (8).
8 Laud (6).
9 Silt (8).
11 Mixes up (8).
12 The guv'nor (4).
13 Danger (5).
18 Discourage (5).
19 Heal (4).
22 Court sittings (8).
24 Awakening call (8).
25 Branched horn (8).
26 Shows it (8).

DOWN

1 Spot (5).
2 Intimidate (5).
3 Took for granted (7).
4 Observes (4).
5 Part of the eye (4).
6 Quiver (6).
7 Loathe (6).
10 Account entry (5).
14 Jollification (5).
15 Decreases (7).
16 Frightened (6).
17 Longs for (6).
20 Stupidity (5).
21 Lending money at excessive interest (5).
22 Window Ledge (4).
23 Put to death (4).

SATURDAY'S CROSSWORD.—Across: 3 Ventures, 7 Alibi, 8 Sapphire, 10 Edicts, 13 Release, 15 Rest, 17 Exposes, 19 Content, 20 Onus, 21 Topples, 26 Resent, 27 Absolute, 28 Loose, 29 Descends. Down: 1 Waver, 2 Civil, 3 Vista, 4 Type, 5 Raises, 6 Sheets, 9 Assent, 11 Demon, 12 Cents, 14 Extort, 15 Romps, 16 Seven, 18 Coward, 19 Nurses, 22 Peels, 23 Lemon, 24 Steep, 25 Glee.

New British Atom Detector

Defence weapon of the Atomic Age is this new battery-operated "contamination meter" being demonstrated at Westminster (London) Civil Defence Headquarters in Monk Street. The instrument is used to detect radio-active particles in "cleansing stations" and hospitals after atomic bomb attacks.—Reuterphoto.

New Member Of Moscow Politburo

London, Apr. 6.

Mikhail Suslov, one of the chief strategists in the East-West cold war, has become a candidate member of the Moscow Politburo, usually well-informed sources reported today.

Evidence tending to support earlier unofficial reports of the appointment was supplied by the latest issues of the Moscow newspapers, Pravda and Izvestia.

They carried pictures of a recent meeting of the Supreme Soviet, showing Suslov seated next to N.M. Shvernik, for long a candidate member of the Politburo.

Suslov, Shvernik and P. K. Ponomarenko, another Politburo candidate member, were seated directly in front of the Politburo proper.

In his reported new position of candidate member, Suslov will be able to take part in the deliberations of policy of Russia and the international Communist movement. — United Press.

Payments Union In Asia Wanted

Singapore, Apr. 6.

A Southeast Asia payments union, similar to the European Payments Union, has been advocated to break down trade barriers among countries in this part of the world.

Dr S. Y. Wang, executive secretary of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, said that lifting of controls on trade with neighbouring countries would mean a flow of capital to Singapore instead of a drain.

"As a first step in this direction and because of the immense business that exists between Indonesia and Singapore, it would be advisable to lift all controls on trade with that country," Dr Wang declared.

Dr Wang holds degrees in juridical science and international law at New York University and Yale and was also a student of Soochow University.—Associated Press.

Fala Buried At His Master's Feet

Hyde Park, N.Y., Apr. 6.

Fala, the late President Roosevelt's black Scottie dog, was buried today at his master's feet in the Hyde Park rose garden.

The elder statesman of dogdom, which had sat at the feet of some of the world's most important men, was laid to rest in a pine box just six days before the seventh anniversary of Franklin Roosevelt's death.

It was learned that Fala was given a "mercy death" two days before his 13th birthday.

Shortly after the dog was buried, Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, husband of Queen Juliana, strolled into the garden and stood for a few moments looking at the little mound of earth.

Mrs Eleanor Roosevelt, who was entertaining the Dutch Royal visitors, had not seen the grave yet. Fala was to have been buried last night, but this was postponed because of heavy rain.—United Press.

World's Largest Tanker

Glasgow, Apr. 6.

The largest tanker yet to join the world's oil-carrying fleets—the 31,745-ton World Unity—went into service in the Clyde today on completion of her trials.

The tanker was built for the World Tankers Corporation of Liberia and is expected to sail for the Middle East on her maiden voyage. Two other tankers being built for the Corporation will be 44,000 tons each.—Reuter.

FAMOUS BALLET TEAM SPLIT UP

London.

The world-famous British ballet partnership of Anton Dolin and Alicia Markova is at an end—after nearly 20 years.

Fragile, seven-stone Alicia Markova — born Alice Marks in Finsbury 41 years ago — admitted it in New York.

"I am not going back to his ballet company in London," she said. "And I don't think I shall ever be dancing with him again.

"A row? Just a matter of Mr Dolin wanting what he wants—and I wanting something else.

"I couldn't even go to the places I wanted, like Paris and South America. Mr Dolin seemed to want me to be in two places at once. So now I'm staying here."

CONTRACT ENDS

Her sister and manager, Mrs Doris Barry, explained that Markova is nursing a foot injury—her fourth in ten years.

"Her contract with Dolin expires in June," she added. "In July, when the foot is healed, she will go to South America."

Dolin, sitting in a box at the Stoll Theatre, where his Festival Ballet opened—without its star ballerina — did not mention a break-up. But he said:—

"I don't know when we shall dance together again. Or if she will return to my company."

'SHE IS GREAT'

Forty-seven-year-old half-Irish "Pat" Dolin — Patrick Healey Kay is his real name — was silent for a moment.

Then he went on: "Markova is one of the great ballerinas.

"But in a company everyone must have a chance. My company is fresh and eager.

"I am sorry that Markova is not dancing. But the ballet must continue."

As a child Alice Marks learned to dance to cure knock-knees. When she was 15 she joined the famous Diaghilev company.

It was in 1929, in London, that she danced with Anton Dolin for the first time.

Already Dolin was dancing with the best ballerinas. He was called the "perfect partner."

They met again and from 1935 they toured the world together. The Markova-Dolin ballet was formed.

WATCH THIS ONE

Last Christmas they were to have appeared at Monte Carlo. For weeks before the performance Markova's right foot had been worrying her.

On Christmas Day she danced in "The Nutcracker Suite." She could not continue. The doctors ordered her a six-month rest.

In the box the lights dimmed. On to the stage danced 22-year-old Belinda Wright, from Stockport.

Dolin said "Watch that girl. She will have the qualities of Markova—lightness, effortless style.

"I will make her a star. She will have me as a partner."—London Express Service.

Eccentric Took All Precautions

Spokane, Apr. 6.

A completely furnished, heavily stocked nine-room bomb shelter built by a Swedish-born Spokane printer at least 20 years ago, came to light here today with the publication of his will.

The spacious underground house was still stocked with $10,000 worth of food, now unfit to eat. It has a living room, bedroom, kitchen and bath with running water. The bath-tub was filled with wheat.

One room contained two presses and other printing equipment and others held 700 gallons of fuel oil, several cords of wood and tons of coal.

The printer, Mr Lewis Denson, who died last December aged 84, was described by a neighbour as a kindly old man who seemed to live in fear of want and bombing attacks.—Reuter.

WANTS TO BE UGLIEST MAN

Boston, Apr. 6.

President Herold Case of Boston University wants to be known as his school's "ugliest man."

He announced his candidacy yesterday along with nine students for the title awarded annually by a vote of the student body. The winner will be announced on Thursday.—United Press.

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ANNUAL APPEAL

The Society for the Protection of Children needs a minimum of $250,000 per annum to carry out its work among needy mothers and children. Your consideration is earnestly invited.

Donations may be sent to P.O. Box 2502
or to this newspaper.

Democracy dies hard in the new Guernica

☆

By VERNON BARTLETT

THERE, in the very middle of the most Basque of towns, was a street named after General Mola! Mola, under whose orders 15 years ago the Germans carried out their most important experiment in blitz warfare by bombing Guernica, the sacred town of the Basques, almost out of existence.

Guernica today is again a busy little town. The dignified buildings of its main street have been rebuilt in granite. Only if you wander about the lower town do you realise that the donkeys tethered there on market day are browsing among the ruins of Basque homes. Only if you can get the Basques talking over their glasses of wine do you learn how bitterly they still feel about General Franco and his demand that they should treat Mola as a national hero.

So friendly

A MAN ran out of a Guernica bar and caught me by the arm. If I was English, he said, I must come inside to meet a Basque from London. We met, and my round of five glasses of local wine cost me sixpence. The Basque from London, the local policeman and others, continued the process—carried out all over Spain—of convincing me that there is a cordiality towards the British which is amazing to anybody who has seen some of the things written about us in some of the Spanish papers.

Less amazing, perhaps, in the Basque country than elsewhere, for there have been generations of friendly trade between Bilbao and Britain. The British colony in that city has dwindled from somewhere about 1,000 to somewhere under 100, and there is no longer a room in the principal club so consistently occupied by British members that it was known as "Gibraltar."

But the political tie remains.

Here, as nowhere else in Spain, there is a democratic tradition with centuries of tradition behind it. For centuries, under the tree of Guernica, deputies from the villages of Viscaya met, as the delegates of the Swiss cantons used to meet, to decide their affairs.

For centuries, under this same tree, the rulers of Spain swore to respect the "fueros," the Basque declaration of rights.

Just a memory

FOR centuries the Basques and the British have interpreted alike such words as "liberty," such phrases as "the rights of man."

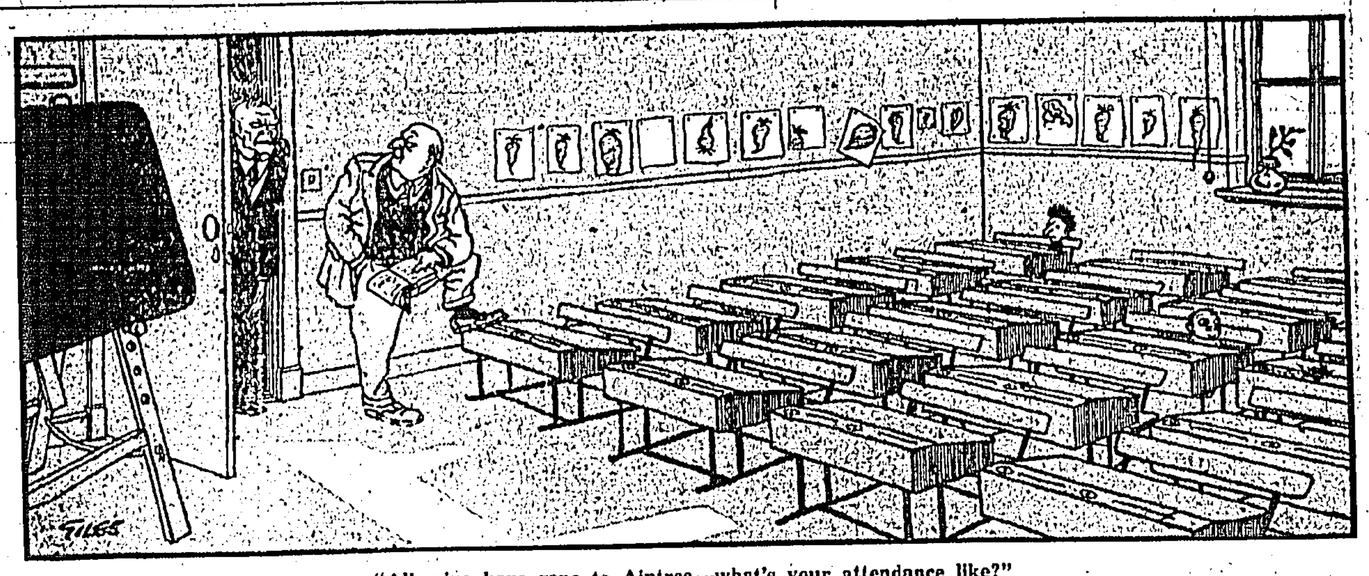
The old tree of Guernica is now a dead and charred stump. Sixty years ago another oak was planted near it, and it survived the German raid.

To reach it, you pass through a museum designed to show how considerable a part the Basques have played in the New World and the Old.

There is, for example, a portrait of a Basque admiral who was one of the commanders of the Spanish Armada—defeated, my Basque guide assured me with some ferocity, not by Sir Francis Drake, but by a Channel gale.

But the parliament building is now empty. The "fueros" were abolished in 1876 because the Basques had been on the losing side in the Carlist wars.

(Contd. on Page 7, Col. 1)



"All mine have gone to Aintree—what's your attendance like?" —(London Express Service)

It is Springtime 1952—and we are still alive . . . . . Somehow, somewhere,

STALIN'S PLANS HAVE GONE WRONG

Introducing a new China Mail fortnightly feature.....an unbiassed analysis of world affairs from London, written by the former Editor-in-Chief of the Daily Express newspaper and Member of Parliament,

BEVERLEY BAXTER

THE Library of the House of Commons is always a pleasant place but particularly at this time of the year when spring has got over her first tearful doubts and is settled down to a maidenly sobriety. Here there are no telephones to interrupt, no strangers, no constituents. The philosopher can sink into a deep leather chair and close his eyes so as to concentrate the better upon the debate to which he will return later on.

It is amusing to hear the tugs snorting a warning to the bridge that they are coming through, and it is soothing to watch there wise motionless philosophers of the river, the barges, standing philosophically while they gaze at the Houses of Parliament.

So it is in the library that I want to write this letter from London, for there are ideas in my head that need clarifying, and I have a feeling that if the job is well done the process of clarification may illumine some of the dark spaces in your minds as well.

TALK By EDEN

LET me admit that in writing about the condition of the world as it is at this moment I am somewhat influenced by having just listened to a private talk by Anthony Eden. I am not in a position to quote him but there is no harm in saying that he was more optimistic about the immediate future than at any time since the end of the Hitler war, and remember, that while Eden may be a romantic off duty he is a realist when it comes to foreign affairs.

Things have not worked out according to plan for Stalin. That does not mean that the Western world has placed itself in an impregnable position or that Western statesmanship deserves the name of genius. Democracy always muddles its affairs and there have been plenty of mistakes since the war-worn democracies put away the sword in 1945 and took up the torch.

Stalin is not a fool, like Hitler, but he has permitted himself the same basic miscalculation as the Fuehrer. Hitler believed that fear was the most powerful of human emotions. Hence the pogroms, the organised gangs of street ruffians, the purges, the concentration camps, the torture chambers, the blitzkreig and the final dream of a victorious Third Reich erected upon the corpses of its enemies, a dream that ended with Hitler's suicide in the bunker.

ROAD TO POWER

STALIN had hardly taken over from Lenin when he began to plan his road to absolute power. Although he believed that Russia would be at war with Germany in a short time he not only liquidated all those leaders of the party who were Trotskyists or Leninists, but executed half the general staff and imprisoned or liquidated thousands of state servants in the government departments. "You value life too highly in the West," he said to Lord Beaverbrook in the war, "nothing is so easy to replace as human beings."

Stalin intended to make war against Germany as soon as he had built up the military might of Russia and had undermined the security of Germany by Communism. But Hitler acted before Russia was ready, and Stalin was forced first to embrace the gorilla he hated and then fight for his life when the gorilla turned on him.

Stalin saw his troops being hurled back but when he realised that the Anglo-Americans would not leave Russia to the mercy of Hitler his confidence returned. Until the war was over there was no time for politically educating the crumbling capitalist world, and Stalin devoted his whole effort to the defeat of Germany. History will record that in that effort he proved himself a generalissimo of genius and indomitable spirit.

When the war ended he was an old man but fanaticism is a drug that drives the heart at a merciless pace. Perhaps too it is worth noting that dictators cannot retire unless they choose a nice quiet grave. Stalin had to go on with his world revolution, nor was he daunted by what he saw.

RUSSIAN WHIP

ASIA was in flames, China had gone Communist, Burma was in revolt, Nehru's hour had come in India, Japan was grovelling in the first defeat of her history, Palestine and the Arab States had taken to the knife, Egypt was swollen with foreign money and home-made nationalism, Persia was erupting. Roosevelt, whose spirit had done so much to sustain Stalin in the dark days of the war, had proved a gullible innocent in conference. The Balkans were in the maw of the Russian grip, and Eastern Germany was a Russian satellite. Britain was virtually bankrupt, France was bled white, and Italy was there for the picking. What did the millions of Russia's wartime dead matter against such a blessed outcome?

Now the world would hear the crack of the Russian whip! Now they would see whether Britain would try to maintain her traditional policy of denying a warm water port to Russia. The Kremlin had become the palace of victorious Communist Imperialism. What dreams Stalin must have had in his waking hours even if fatigue robbed him of them in the night!

It must have overjoyed his Muscovite heart, to see the British Empire breaking up before his eyes. India, that proudest gem in Britain's crown, had become a Republic with a hostile Pakistan glaring furiously across the misshapened frontier carved with such indecent haste. Burma; which had been defended with so many British lives, was free for opportunism and corruption.

The only great nation which had emerged stronger from the war was the United States of America, but why should Stalin doubt that the fondness which Roosevelt had shown towards him—not only the fondness but the trust—would be continued by Truman, especially as Churchill was no longer in a position to fortify his spirit?

I do not doubt that Stalin must have looked out from the windows of the Kremlin and said: "By the spring of 1952 the world will be ours for the taking. Those countries which have not succumbed to Communism by that time will fall to the Russian sword."

SAME MISTAKE

AND yet here, it is—Springtime 1952—and we are still alive. Somehow, somewhere, Stalin's calculations have gone wrong. I suggest, even at the expense of repetition, that he made the same mistake as Hitler in overestimating the effect of fear and underestimating the strength of the human spirit.

We always forget the Greeks so easily, yet not only did they fight Italy in the war but took on Germany as well. Their heroism is almost as great as their incapacity for stable government. But after the long occupation of the Germans had ended, they fought the Communist rebellion that was to put Greece in the bag. That was blow number one for Stalin.

Then who would have thought that Tito, the plump wonder boy of Communism, would turn against Russian Imperialism and not only defy Stalin but mock him? Yet the fury that came from the Kremlin was directed not at Yugoslavia but at the other satellites—Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Rumania for fear another Tito would arise.

Stalin was losing face, a dangerous loss for even a semi-oriental. Something had to be done to show the world who was master, something dramatic, ironic and humiliating but short of war. So Russia closed the roads supplying the allied zones in Berlin. The Anglo-American reply was as swift as a thunderclap upon a flash of lightning. With a roar of engines the airlift began—costly, cumbersome but decisive. The West had defied Stalin for the first time, and Stalin drew away to nurse his injured pride.

KOREA!

WHERE could he find solace for his self-esteem? Above all where could he display the might of Russia without involving her in a world war? The answer was Korea!

General MacArthur told me in New York that the North Korean army was the best trained and best equipped military unit he had ever fought against. The Russians had done a wonderful job in preparing this formidable army, and were certain that by the time the Western nations could make up their minds, South Korea would be overrun and there would no longer be a divided state. The whole thing was to be a dynamic exhibition of Russia's strength without the loss of a single Soviet soldier. And what a strategic jewel Korea would be in the hands of Russian stooges. Korea was a prize in herself as well as a Communist demonstration of strength.

But the United Nations, under the courageous impetus of America, acted with incredible swiftness. We cannot yet see the end of the tragic story, but Stalin had suffered his fourth great humiliation. Greece, Tito, the Berlin airlift, Korea. The Communist dream of world conquest was paling beneath the morning light of reality.

Yet Stalin had two great hopes—Persia and Egypt. If only the anti-British outburst could be sustained in those two countries, then surely the doors would be opened to Russia. The British bungled the Persian affair and the American intervention did not help much, for when it comes to oil the selfish interests of competitive capitalism are apt to forget the primary importance of politics.

But with all their fumbling and bungling, and despite the half-hearted, split-minded intervention of America, the oil did not gush, and the financial situation of Persia became more and more difficult. But if Persia failed the Russian dream there was still Egypt.

This was, however, quite another matter. You might argue for or against British Imperialism in Persia, but when it comes to the Suez Canal, without which our ships would have to make the long voyage round the Cape, that was something of a very different complexion.

PARADOX

THE British acted swiftly, harshly, mercilessly. This was a threat to Britain's sea power, and that is something which Britain will take from no country. Seldom has a great power used its strength with so little regard for the susceptibilities of a smaller power, but the patience of the British Lion had come to an end.

There must be a dangerous interval between the writing of these words and their publication, but I make this prophecy—that both Persia and Egypt will come to terms with Great Britain. If I am proved right then Russia will have lost two sources of great hope. The truth is that while both Persia and Egypt deeply resented what they called the Imperialism of the Anglo-American alliance, neither was willing to accept Russian Communism as an alternative.

Thus we come to this significant paradox, that while many of the smaller nations are in revolt against the Victorian conception of Imperialism, they are reluctant to accept Communism as a substitute. This may be of small encouragement to the Western capitalist world but, equally, it supplies little inspiration to the lonely man in the Kremlin.

But Stalin, despite his years, is still one of the ablest, if not the ablest, of the political leaders of the world. Unlike Churchill and Truman, he does not have to answer to parliament for his actions. He can switch and change at will regardless of public opinion.

Therefore out of the blue he went back on everything he had said and offered Germany the chance to re-unite. I speak with some knowledge when I declare that this decision startled every foreign minister in the Western world.

Supposing Stalin was sincere—and otherwise why should he make the approach?—then why should he take the risk of a united Russia-hating Germany? I can assure you that the foreign ministers of France, Britain and America, as well as the foreign ministers of the Dominions, were puzzled and deeply concerned.

OUT OF CHIPS

YET it was not so puzzling, since Stalin is above all a realist. Why not give up the idea of conquering Europe in view of the indisputable fact that Western military and oceanic power made such a conquest a highly problematical affair? Why not lull the West to sleep? Why not by sweet reasonableness persuade the Western world to leave Asia to the Russians?

Stalin, the gambler, was running out of chips, but there was always the chance of *Le Grand Coup* if the remaining chips were put on the winning number, in other words, Asia.

Nor did Stalin's swift brain end there. With the genius of a man who by his own gifts rose to the dictatorship of Imperialist Russia, he changed his strategy with a swiftness that was only equalled by its cynicism. Hitherto he had looked upon the hungry territories of the world as a breeding source for Communism, providing they remained hungry. Suddenly Russia started to export foodstuffs to every country and territory (within the Russian zone of influence) that needed them. "We bring you peace and goodwill and food," cried the Russians. "We are the peacemakers."

The menace of the Kremlin, the threat of the Red Army, the implacable severity of Imperialist Communism, had resolved into a broad humanity which offered food to the hungry. As politics it was brilliant although perhaps a little late.

THE CHANGE

I DO not intend to paint the distant scene nor predict the morrow. It is not in my power to see beyond the ranges and to tell you what is buried there. My only purpose is to remind you how startlingly the strategy of Imperialist Communism has changed in the last year.

From a military standpoint it seems quite clear that Russia has lost (if we may borrow the term from America) the Primaries. Secondly it would seem equally clear that the nations which live under the heel of capitalism are not eager to exchange their known hell for the unrevealed delights of a Communist heaven.

There I shall leave it. But may I remind you once more this is spring-time 1952 and that the Russian time-table called for the collapse of the Western capitalist world by that time.

Stalin is a little late in his time-table.

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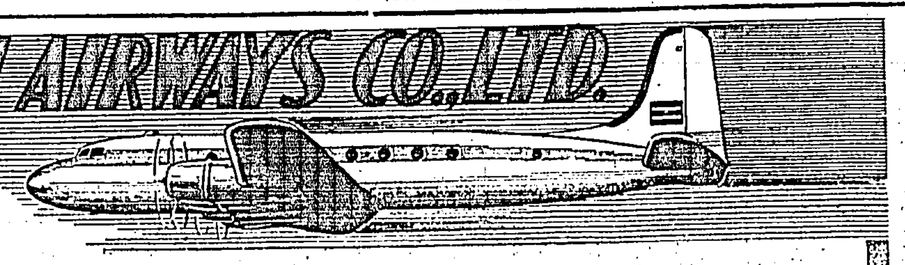

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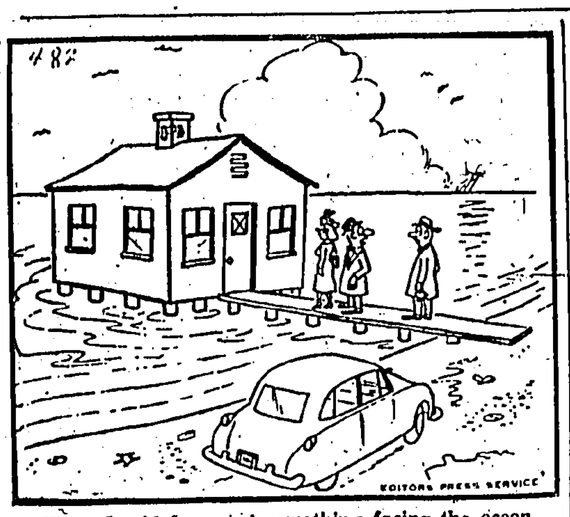


"When I said I wanted something facing the ocean, I didn't mean on all four sides!"

• BY • THE • WAY •

by Beachcomber

THE year opened badly for animals. In Tanganyika lions have been officially classed as vermin, and now anybody can swat them without a licence, or catch them on enormous sheets of glued paper hung between trees.

Big-game hunters will probably resent this new classification, but small-game hunters will be encouraged to present to their clubs handsomely mounted beetles' heads or rats' tails.

Many years ago Mr Leslie Henson, when his offer of marriage was refused in Act II of a musical comedy, used to mutter: "He reddened, and went to Africa." In refusing a man, a girl will now say, with a sneer, "Why not go to Africa to hunt vermin?"

A near thing

I ONCE did a bit of lion-potting in Tanganyika. I was out there to cover the elections for the old Rochdale Observer, and, finding time heavy on my hands, I went up country to Kondoa Irangi, and camped by the Bubu river with a fur-trader from down country. The trader set his traps one night, and we waited. Presently there was a crackling in the undergrowth, and there, not five feet away, were four full-grown lions glaring at us. We both fired our rifles together, giving the beasts two barrels, as the innkeeper said at the cricket lunch. We missed. The lions ran away, and we fell into the traps. The lions came back and ate us later on.

Prodnose: Well, of all the——! May I ask how you come to be alive still?

Myself: That is what I have always wondered.

Twenty Years of Uproar

THE accidental lowering of the curtain in the middle of a London play a few days ago made the audience laugh. They thought it was part of the fun. A similar incident occurred at Covent Garden some years ago when Rustiguzzi was singing Mimi. The audience thought it was a bohemian prank, especially when the curtain rose again and there was Rustiguzzi hanging on to it and kicking out like an infuriated mare. They had to get her down by ladder.

Marginal note

ONE of the Ministries, lashed by the whip of public opinion has stated that the duty of its spies and informers (they are, of course, called "enforcement officers") is to prevent offences being committed rather than to obtain prosecutions. Let us all remember this next time an "enforcement officer" traps some old woman into selling him a bootlace without a licence.

JACOBY ON BRIDGE

Can You Figure The Correct Lead?

NORTH (D) 16
♠ Q
♥ Q 10
♦ A 8 5 3 2
♣ A K Q 6 4

WEST	EAST
♠ A K J 9 7 2	♠ 10 8 6
♥ K J 9	♥ 6 3
♦ K J	♦ Q 9 7 6 4
♣ 10 5	♣ 9 6 3

SOUTH
♠ 5 4 3
♥ A 8 7 5 4 2
♦ 10
♣ J 7 2

Neither side vul.

North	East	South	West
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	1 ♠
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥	2 ♠
3 ♣	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead—♠ K

By OSWALD JACOBY

SEVERAL thousand bridge players in America took part in the Bridge Olympic sponsored by the Australian Bridge Council. The excellence of the hands may be judged from the example, shown today.

South is not required to climb all the way up to four hearts to get full credit for the bidding of this hand. Game at hearts is, however, a reasonable enough contract.

West opens the king of spades against a contract of four hearts and is then supposed to stop, look and consider the bidding. South should have a six-card heart suit since he has voluntarily re-bid a suit that could not be better than nice-eight.

South should have three clubs for his raise in that suit, and should have a singleton to give him some distributional excuse for his bold bidding.

In short, West can practically name every card in the South hand if he really thinks about it. Even so, it is very difficult for West to find the right lead at the second trick.

Just for the fun of it, try it yourself. Look at the full deal as carefully as you like—and pick the correct lead for West at the second trick.

West must lead the king of hearts. This startling return is the only sure way to set the contract.

If South now tries to ruff spades in dummy, he can ruff only one. He will then lose two trump tricks to West in addition to a second spade trick.

If South tries to draw trumps, he will lose only one trick, but he will have to give up three spade tricks.

The point is that West must lead a trump to prevent declarer from ruffing two losing spades in dummy. But if West leads a low trump at the second trick, dummy can win with the queen or ten.

Dummy's remaining trump can be used to ruff a spade, after which South can draw a second round of trumps with his ace. South therefore loses only one trump trick and two spades.

CARD Sense

Q—The bidding has been:

East	South	West	North
1 Heart	Double	Pass	1 Spade
Pass	?		

You, South, hold: Spades Q-J-7-4, Hearts 2, Diamonds K-10-8-6, Clubs A-K-5-3. What do you do?

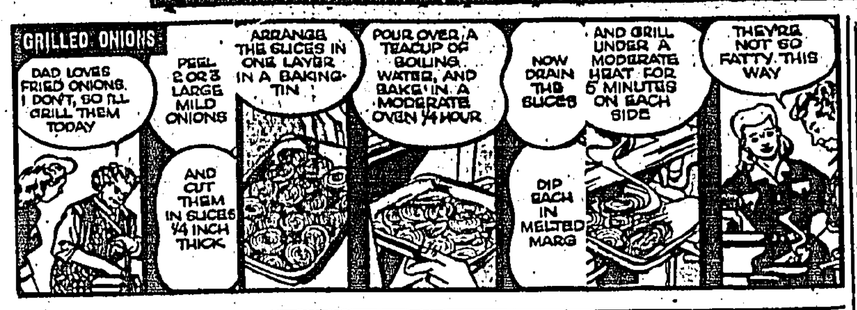
A—Bid two spades. Game is unlikely, but possible. If your partner has a four-card spade holding with fair strength in spades and diamonds, your raise may be just enough to encourage him to try for a suite makable game. This raise shows good four-card support for spades and a solid but not powerful takeout double.

TODAY'S QUESTION

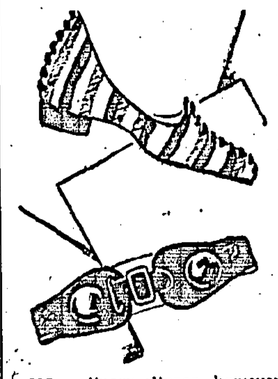
The bidding is the same as in the question just answered. You, South, hold: Spades K-Q-7-4, Heart 2, Diamonds K-Q-8-6, Clubs A-K-5-3. What do you do?

Answer Tomorrow

WOMANSENSE



Timely Accessories



NO ordinary slipper, however pretty, will do for the new leisure at home clothes. No, it has to be something special, something on the order of the pretty lounge about shoe shown above. It is of striped metallic brocade with lacing up the vamp and heel, centre front and back. A handsome belt, for daytime or home wear, is of cherry antique leather with English brass discs and buckle.

Exercise For Beauty

To look young, keep trim and attractive, take part in sports. You may not be a Sonja Henie, but skating is healthy fun.

By HELEN FOLLETT

AFTER school days are over, so many things occupy a girl's time that she may neglect regular beauty chores.

Take exercise, for example. She is no longer obliged to show up at gym class at certain times and possibly she is not interested in physical education. After a few years she may come to realise the fact that her figure is losing youthful lines, that her complexion has lost freshness. During the twenties a girl must work to stave off good-looks worries that may come in the thirties.

She must remember that the three rules of complexion care are cleanliness, creaming and stimulation. No matter how tired she is, how late the hour, she should remove make-up with a thin cream, use soap and water, do a little patting with cream again.

She must not be so engrossed in her job or vocation that she has a settled feeling. One begins to grow old as soon as one ceases to do youthful things, like running up stairs instead of plodding slowly.

Even in the late twenties lines can appear on the face. You've seen them. Tiny crinkles around the eyes, even signs of furrows between the eyebrows. These etchings come through the habit of taking on extreme facial expressions.

It is well to keep in mind that health and vitality are the foundations of loveliness. Without them there are no sparkles in the eyes, no carnation blooms in the cheeks, no lightness in the steps.

Household Hint

To finish an unfinished wooden salad bowl, rub it thoroughly with sandpaper until the wood acquires a gloss. Or rub it down with linseed and rubbing oil, then apply a clear lacquer for a high gloss and finish, then sand with sandpaper. Lacquer is safe for food bowls, but don't use varnish or shellac because the alcohol will ruin the finish.

FUR FANCIES FOR SPRING

THE FLY-AWAY IN LAMB (At Left): A new model for the Spring utility range is this fly-away jacket in Krimmer Tescan Embros Lamb with wide cape sleeves trimmed in contrasting fur. Amusing touch is the pyramid tucked effect down the front and the little stand-up collar.

SPRING WITH A SWING (Model At Right): Jacket with a swing, for Spring is in Tescan Leopard Lamb. Beaver Lamb makes an effective contrast on the rounded collar, the half-moon shaped pockets and the deep split cuffs which turn back to bracelet length. It's for town and country wear. (Reuterphoto)

SPRING TUXEDO (At Left): Tuxedo fronts which form pockets are the spring feature of this charming elbow length cape in Tescan Meincella Lamb. It's dyed to resemble mink.

SCARF, COLLAR, POCKET AND COMFORT (Model At Right): Four-fold function is served by the pocket-scarf collar, latest fashion idea of this Tescan Muscovite Embros Lamb coat. It serves as collar pocket and scarf and gives additional comfort to an already luxurious coat. The pocket has a zip-fastener and the scarf-collar can be worn in several different ways. The coat is three-quarter length with rounded shoulders, enormously full sleeves and deep cuffs. (Reuterphoto)

SPRING PIECES (At Left): Small fur pieces are a fashion notion for this spring. Shown here are a matching hat, cravat and muff in Krimmer Tescan Embros Lamb. They can be used to bring the changes with coat or suit.

LAMB BECOMES FOX (Model At Right): This new cape-jacket in Tescan Lucca Lamb is dyed to resemble Blue Fox. Cardigan neckline softly rounded fronts and pointed sleeves are noteworthy features.—(Reuterphoto).

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

Pixie O'Scowl Has A Problem

—What Kind of Birthday Presents Do Bugs Like?—

By MAX TRELL

"NOT that I object, mind you," Pixie O'Scowl said to Knarf and Hanid, the shadow-children with the turned-about names, "but I've got so many other things to do! So that when birthdays come along and I have to start getting presents (for what's the good of having a birthday if you can't have presents?) to give to my friends and neighbours and all their children, I've hardly got time to breathe!"

Pixie O'Scowl plumped himself down on a rock in front of O'Cheer Hall and took a deep breath. "And the worst of everything," he added, "is that the birthday presents I have to get can't be bought in a store. I've got to go out and find them!"

What Kind of People?

Knarf now wanted to know what kind of people Pixie O'Scowl was giving presents to that he had to go and find them?

"People?" repeated the pixie. "Who said anything about people? People would be easy! My friends and neighbours are bugs."

"Bugs!"

Pixie O'Scowl nodded.

Hanid asked in a puzzled voice: "What kind of birthday presents do bugs get?"

"Oh, pretty much the same as everybody else . . . only not quite! Now take the grasshoppers, for instance—the girl grasshoppers. They like jumping-ropes. Where do you think you could get a jumping-rope for a girl grasshopper?"

"That's just what I was going to ask!" said Knarf.

"You'd get it from a spider," replied Pixie O'Scowl. "You'd say: 'Spider, spin me a long jumping-rope for a grasshopper, please!' And if the spider wasn't too busy spinning a web, or repairing a broken one, or looking for flies, she might agree to do it.

Pixie O'Scowl plumped himself down on a rock.

Marbles for Boy Bugs

"And take potato-bugs," Pixie O'Scowl went on—"boy potato-bugs. They like marbles. But where do you find marbles small enough for a boy potato-bug to play with?"

"I was just going to ask that, too!" said Hanid.

"Well," said Pixie O'Scowl, "you'd go to an earthworm and you'd say: 'Earthie, wriggle down a-ways, please, and bring me up some round pebbles about half the size of a grain of sand!' That's how you'd get marbles for boy potato-bugs, provided the earthworm wasn't too busy watching out for hungry robins, or doing his housework, or just staying underground where you couldn't see him.

"And take young butterflies—young girl butterflies. They like nothing better than to flutter around with a parasol over their heads. But where do you get butterfly-parasols?"

"Exactly what I was going to ask you," said Knarf.

"You wouldn't ask anybody," said Pixie O'Scowl. "You go out into the middle of the woods after a rainy day, and you'd slosh up and down looking for tiny mushrooms. Those would be your butterfly-parasols."

Just Frowned

"That's very clever," Hanid said. But Pixie O'Scowl just frowned and continued.

"And take a pixie," said Pixie O'Scowl. "Take me. Take Pixie O'Scowl. What would I like best for my birthday? I'll tell you. I'd like nothing better than a long day when I have nothing to do but lie in my bed and sleep . . . sleep . . . sleep. But," he said loudly, "where do I find time to sleep?"

"That's just what we were going to ask you," answered Knarf and Hanid together.

"Pooh!" said Pixie O'Scowl. "Don't ask me! I don't know were to find time for anything. I never get a day of rest. But maybe," he said, smiling for the first time, "I'll get the next best present—which is to have all the boy-bugs and girl-bugs . . . all my friends and neighbours, say: Pixie O'Scowl is the nicest birthday-present-giver in the whole wide world!"

Knarf and Hanid weren't sure that Pixie O'Scowl would get his first present. But they were absolutely positive that he would get the second!

YOUR BIRTHDAY... By STELLA

MONDAY, APRIL 7

BORN today, your initiative, individuality, and energy usually keep you busy. Be warned against starting too many things at the same time for you must project before beginning another, if you are to become really successful. Cultivate your executive ability. You will have more time for the important things, if you delegate the lesser tasks to others.

You have a highly social nature and are never happier than when surrounded by hoards of people. And you like to be among those whose conversation is exciting and stimulating. You women might become brilliant social leaders if you so desired. You'd probably gain a reputation for collecting interesting celebrities at your parties. You do not like an ivory tower, yet, in marriage, you must be careful to select someone who understands your temperament thoroughly; for your moods can be capricious and, at times, difficult.

Your will and determination are apt to turn into stubbornness. You get an idea into your head and want your own way or nothing! Your likes and dislikes are strong and are made quickly. Sometimes it would be well to wait a while before passing judgment on a person.

To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

TUESDAY, APRIL 8

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—You will get out of this day exactly what you put into it—no more, no less. So be exacting!

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—Letters you have been postponing must not be put off any longer. Finish them at once.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—A fine day for study and research. You should secure information of importance.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)—Spend morning hours in improving your personal appearance. Can be important to your job.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—A good evening for planning a party or reception at your own home to introduce a stranger.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—Relax this evening with some good music or a light book to avoid accumulating tensions.

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—Don't jump into a new business connection without thinking it over carefully.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)—Plan the rest of the month's activities carefully and then adhere to your plan.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 23)—Join a friend in a favourite hobby this evening. It can bring mutual pleasure.

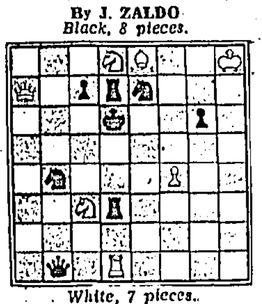
CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—Intellectual activities are especially favoured just now. Reading and research prove rewarding.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—A good day for some serious study. Increase your knowledge in a specialised field.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—If you have done a good job, accept the rewards for it now. Profits should be quite large.

CHESS PROBLEM

By J. ZALDO
Black, 8 pieces.

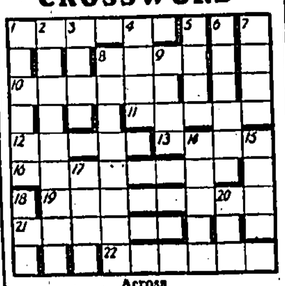


White, 7 pieces.

White to play: mate in two.

Solution to Saturday's problem:
1, Q—R7; threat 2, Q—Q7 (ch). 1 . . . K×Kt; 2, B—B4 (ch). 1 . . . R×Q, P—B4; 2, Kt—B4 (ch); 1 . . . Kt×B; 2, Kt (K8) ×QBP (ch).

CROSSWORD



Across
1. Four or six died, so part. (6)
5. The tree of Eros. (4)
10. What the cat that joined the kat does. (6)
11. Waterproof seed covering. (5)
12. Iris, or come back air for the smell of violets. (5)
13. That ashtray has silk fabric. (4)
16. Give a no? No. (6)
19. Use them lest cash be mislaid. (8)
21. Produced by the stoker. (5)
22. Established on the land. (6)

Down
1. Brought fame to St. George. (6)
2. Distorted neat rites. (9)
3. Marked by the cross. (4)
4. The farmer's wife did to the mice. (4)
5. Taken from all pale apples— (4)
6. —or some gloomy ones. (6)
7. They scrummage around. (4)
8. The radio rat brings warmth. (8)
9. Card game. (4)
14. Ward off. (5)
15. Can, the serpent hear it? (4)
17. Grab some clothing. (4)
18. Purely habit. (3)
20. Pennies would end it in Yorkshire. (3)

Solution of Saturday's puzzle. Across: 1, Seraphim; 6, Hawker; 9, Fan; 9, Eclipse; 12, Lie; 13, Molar; 14, Doctor; 15, Yew; 16, Aroma; 20, Heir; 22, Cloaks; 23, Addressed. Down: 1, Shelly; 2, Akimbo; 3, Repo; 4, Narrative; 5, Endure; 7, Acid; 8, Fearless; 10, Lee; 11, Slow; 15, Wood; 17, Bake; 19, Mar; 21, Red.

INTELLIGENCE TEST

Pewter pots

By T. O. HARE

"MY Uncle James is an old man," said Snoggins. "He's beginning to disembarrass himself of his worldly goods. He assembled all his nephews yesterday, and distributed among us his famous collection of pewter pots. There were once nearly 100 of them, but quite a few were stolen. I came away with sixteen of them; so did my brother Luke. But all of us got at least one pot."

"But some were more favoured than others, I take it?"

"Not really," said Snoggins. "The old guy has a nice sense of justice. He gave away money as well as pots; we weren't too proud to accept it. Each of us received a fiver in respect of each pot that didn't come to him; less £10 in respect of each pot that did. Ingenious, don't you think so? £510 in all was distributed, as well as all the pots."

How much did Snoggins receive in cash?

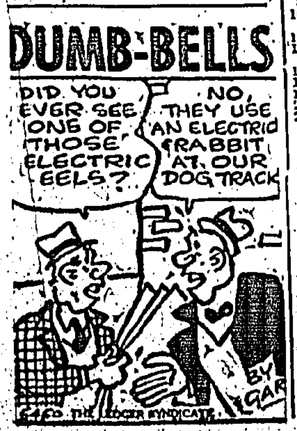
(Solution on Page 10)

Check Your Knowledge

1. Who flew a kite to attract lightning?
2. Where is the Royal Observatory in England now located?
3. What fruit is dried to make raisins?
4. What is a parvenu?
5. Who were the first people from the West to discover the island of Formosa, and when?
6. Name the Pacific island on which the mutineers of the Bounty settled.

(Answers on Page 10)

DUMB-BELLS



Rupert and the New Bonnet—15

Seeing that Rupert is not afraid, Bill plucks up his courage and goes with him in the direction from which the big fireball came. Now and then they hear more little pops and hisses through the fog, and once a large jumping cracker leaps from nowhere and pops and bangs around their feet. The smell of burning becomes stronger. At length their way is barred by an old building partly ruined and covered with ivy. They stand and listen. "There's someone inside," whispers Rupert.

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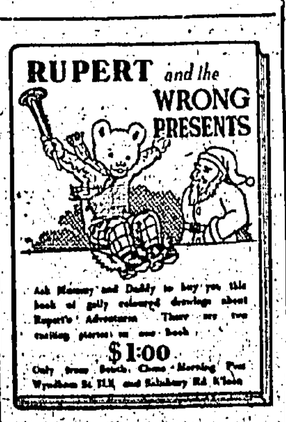


Pickles Add Palate Appeal

By ALICE DENHOFF

PART of the programme for combatting unduly high prices is to use plentiful, inexpensive foods with imagination, serving them with eye as well as palate appeal, and using all sorts of bright, even unfamiliar, ingredients to make simple foods tasty.

Playing a nice role in this operation is the familiar pickle. Adding pickles to tinned luncheon meat, dried salt codfish or tinned kidney beans can help transform a plain, inexpensive food into something special that will bring forth compliments instead of complaints.

First off, a recipe for a nice loaf to yield 6-8 servings. Remove meat from 2 12-oz. tins, luncheon meat. Place the two pieces together in shape of a loaf on baking pan. Score and stud with whole cloves. Combine ¼ c. chopped sweet pickles, ½ c. sweet pickle liquid and ½ c. brown sugar, mixing thoroughly. Bake meat in 375 F. oven for 30 min., occasionally basting with pickle mixture. Garnish with pimiento and pickle stars, the latter made by cutting a pickle into strips and crisscrossing 3 strips to form a star shape.

For a substantial and pleasing salad for 4-6 servings, combine in a large bowl, mixing thoroughly, one c. chopped dill pickles, ½ c. chopped celery, a No. 2 tin kidney beans (drained), 2 chopped, hard-cooked eggs, tbsp. grated onion, ¾ tsp. salt and ¼ c. mayonnaise. Chill well before serving.

Pickle Codfish Balls served with a tangy tomato sauce make for good eating. To prepare about 30 small cakes, use a 4-oz. box dried salt codfish, prepared according to directions on the package. Combine with 2 c. mashed potatoes, 2 tbsp. butter, one beaten egg and ½ c. sweet pickle relish. Mix thoroughly. Flour the hands and roll mixture into 30 small balls. Fry in deep fat (375 F.) until golden brown—about one minute. Serve with tomato sauce.

ON THE RECORD

The Record Sprint Out Of The Rain At Soakingpool

It may have been that they thought the last few seats in Noah's Ark were there for the winners only, but Hongkong's schoolgirl sprinters selected one of the worst downpours that ever spoiled an athletic meet to run the fastest 100 Metres ever run here by the weaker sex. It was no longer Sookunpoo they were running at. The ground well deserved one wag's reference to it as "Soakingpool."

It was one of the closest ever decisions between first and second and the sixth girl in was the former record-holder, Wong Man-wan, one of the tiniest sprinters going and one of the best losers in history. When her coach wagged his finger at her and said "Last, eh?" her reply, if unspoken, was clearly implied in her eyes, which read, "So would you have been, smart guy!"

• • •

Winner was Poon Ching-woon of the Pui To Girls' School, who has risen to the top in one year from comparative obscurity. Last year she was eliminated in Heat 4 by Hilary Hale, Julia Tingay and Pamela Lee.

She first came into prominence by winning the 100 and 200 Metres in 13.8 and 29.4 seconds at the Inter-School Sports run by the South China Athletic Association at Caroline Hill in December.

At Boundary Street in February, she pushed little Lam Kak-lan to a new 100 Yards record, finishing third to Wong Yee-man, who the previous month had improved the 100 Metres record to 13.7, and ahead of Fok Wing-sheung, Jennifer Hart and Julia Tingay in that order.

She did not start as favourite yesterday, though she had won her heat ahead of Deborah Hurlbatt and Lam Kak-lan, but she started as a recognised strong contender.

• • •

The outsider lane was drawn by Jennifer Hart, the favourite on her record of having beaten Lam Kak-lan and Wong Yee-man at Caroline Hill last month and on coming in first in her heat yesterday. She drew the outside lane, which was absorbing the downpour more slowly than the others and was the worst of the six though the other five were not very much better.

Wong Yee-man and Deborah Hurlbatt were in Lanes 1 and 2, both of which were quagmires toward the finish, but the three middle lanes also had a fairly slushy patch over some 30 yards.

• • •

Little Lam Kak-lan was off like a bullet with Poon Ching-woon close on her heels, catching her at the tape by lunging forward as Kak-lan ran straight through. Both were caught in 13.4 seconds.

Deborah Hurlbatt repeated her victory over Jennifer Hart in the KGV Sports, winning by less than a foot in 13.7 seconds, which time equalled the old record and was better than the Championship best held by Noele Simmons and Hilary Hale.

Jennifer was fourth in 13.8 seconds, equalling the old Championship best, just ahead of Fok Wing-sheung with Wong Yee-man bringing up the rear about a yard behind.

• • •

On a conservative estimate, given normal conditions, the six would have been timed 13.1-13.1-13.4-13.5-13.5-13.7 which would have put them on a par with the best that Southeast Asia has with the exception of Inocencia Solis of the Philippines and Tang Pei-wah of Singapore, both very much older girls than the six finalists at Sookunpoo yesterday.

The lanes that Poon Ching-woon and Lam Kak-lan ran in were later remeasured and found to be 50 centimetres too long. The 30-metre steel tape had to be oiled to prevent rust gathering after contact; over some patches, with a quarter-inch of rainfall and it was vaselined, all 30 metres of it, by Mr Raleigh Leung and Captain Phillips, who went over it again later; metre by metre, to wipe the vaseline off.

The girls deserved all this labour as the five losers were certainly five of the best losers I have seen and each and every one contributed to the new record. They all train together at Caroline Hill and are now quite used to being first at one meeting, last at the next and first again at the following one.

These were their placings in their starts this year in the shorter sprint:

Lam Kak-lan—second, first, second, third, second.

Jennifer Hart — fourth, fifth, second, first, first, fourth.

Fok Wing-sheung — fourth, second, fifth.

Wong Yee-man—first, second, third, third, sixth.

Deborah Hurlbatt — first, second, third.

The next time they run, the first may well be last and the last first and that will surprise nobody. In this sporting crowd, too, anyone over 14 is a veteran.

—"RECORDER."

Dodgers Retain Midget League Championship

Due to the torrential downpours over the week-end, the Softball programme was curtailed, only two games being decided after the full seven innings of play.

The Midget League play-off for the championship between P.I. Dodgers and St Joseph's resulted in the former securing their second successive triumph by virtue of a 4-2 victory.

The Junior Loop tussle between the Griffins and Delawares resulted in the Griffins scoring a surprise 3-2 win.

The Senior "A" Division game between the Overseas and South China ended in a 11-all tie after five innings of play. The game had to be called off due to the heavy rain, which flooded the diamond.

All other games arranged had to be postponed and the Management Committee may have to re-schedule these on week-days in order to complete the League fixtures before the last week-end of this month.

RESULTS AT A GLANCE

SENIOR "A" DIVISION

Overseas	11	S. China	11 (5 innings)

JUNIOR LEAGUE

Griffins	3	Delawares	2
S. China	0	P.I. Dodgers	7 (walk-over)

MIDGET LEAGUE PLAY-OFF

P.I. Dodgers	4	St Joseph's	2

ARMY LEVEL WITH KCC

Recrelo scored 30 runs for no wickets against Army "A" at King's Park on Saturday in the First Division League cricket match when rain forced the game to be abandoned.

By the League rules, this is a drawn match and Army are level with KCC on points, but with a game in hand. Army's remaining match is with Indian Recreation Club.

Royal Air Force are four points behind the leaders with two matches in hand.

SCHOOLS HAVE A CLEAN SWEEP SO FAR OF COLONY CHAMPIONSHIPS

By "RECORDER"

The Schools have so far picked up all the three titles decided at the Colony Athletic Championships at Soakunpoo over the week-end. The first, the Shot Put Championship, went to Chan Wai-chuen of Pui Ching School, the second, the 400 Metres Championship, to A. Collaco of La Salle College, and the third, the Ladies' 100 Metres, to Poon Ching-woon of Pui To Girls' School. They are unlikely to make a complete sweep of the Championships, but may well finish up taking a lion's share of these.

In the deluge that came with the last event, six schoolgirls ran for shelter through a pelting rain in the fastest time ever recorded in this Colony, the first two in becoming joint holders of the new record of 13.4 seconds. Despite spiked shoes, they were slipping as they ran and under normal conditions could have been much faster.

Second was South China's little Lam Kak-lan, caught at the tape as Poon Ching-woon shot forward in a last desperate plunge. Catching up at the finish was Deborah Hurlbatt, who ran through in 13.7 seconds to nip past Jennifer Hart, and Fok Wing-sheung, both of whom equalled the previous Championship best of 13.8, with Wong Yee-man, the previous record-holder in the event at 13.7, last.

The new record equals the unofficial best ever in the Colony of 13.4 seconds set by June Hall of Diocesan Girls' School at Caroline Hill in the SCAA-sponsored Colony Open Meet in 1941, but it was made in conditions that slowed up the runners a minimum three-tenths of a second.

The semi-finals of the Men's 200 Metres, run on a heavy track but well before the deluge, did not produce anything better than 23.9 seconds from six runners who have covered the distance in 23 seconds or faster time than that within the past two seasons.

'HEAP BIG' COLLECTION

Quentin Almao, running second to Stephen Xavier in the first heat, added t his impressive collection of scalps those of Wong Man-wan (23.0) and Hamzah (22.8) after having outrun Shek Ka-lim (23.0) and Roach (22.9) in the heats. The bracketed times are the best the four have done in Hongkong.

His teammate from King George V School, W. L. McCall, won the second heat from Roach, Shek Ka-lim and Shelley, after also having accounted for Hamzah in the heats.

Hamzah, it may be remembered, is the same man who pushed Stephen Xavier to a Colony record of 22.5 seconds at Caroline Hill in January.

Xavier had an easy victory over Almao in the first semi-final, with Wong Man-wan, less than a yard back, third, and Hamzah just nipped in the last three yards.

The second semi-final was a very close one, McCall winning by about two feet from Roach with Shek Ka-lim and Shelley, within a yard of Roach, difficult to separate, and Brooks also coming in on what was almost a blanket finish.

The 400 Metres Low Hurdles was won by A. Collaco in 61.8 seconds, an improvement of more than two seconds on his previous best time. He was not pushed in the race, second place going to P/O C. Randall of HMS Constance, who won for the Royal Navy its first medal at the Colony Athletic Championships. Third was Bdsmn. J. McKechnie.

S/Sgt. Handley was going strongly when he fell on the second bend. He was up again in no time but had lost too much ground.

The heats of the 110 Metres High Hurdles saw fast times from Chang Yat-hung (17 seconds) and A. Collaco (17.1).

The other events were called off after a heavy downpour flooded the track within a few minutes of the Ladies' 100 Metres final and the Championships will be continued next Saturday, commencing at 2 p.m.

Rita Hall, one of the surprises of the meet, was on her way to a new Colony record in the 200 Metres heats when she slowed down over the last 30 yards.

She was clocked in 29.4 seconds, three-tenths of a second short of the record. Jennifer Hart won the other heat in 30 seconds.

The final should see a new Colony record, well under 29 seconds, as Jennifer has a best mark of 29.1 and Poon Ching-woon of 29.4.

THE SUMMARIES

100 METRES

(First two from each heat qualified for the semi-finals)

Heat 1—1. Fung Kat-lee (HKSSA) 12.0 seconds; 2. Lee Chiu-kit (SCAA) 12.1; 3. Lt. W. I. Kyle-Milward (Army) 12.2; 4. F/O. G. H. B. Norris (RAF).

Heat 2—1. Eddie Loureiro (HKSSA) 11.4 seconds; 2. Lt. W. Shelley (Milocarians) 11.5; 3. Shek Wai-man (SCAA) 11.6; 4. Hung Chee-kee (SCAA); 5. Lt. A. W. Gaddes (Milocarians).

Heat 3—1. CQMS G. Coleman (Army) 11.7 seconds; 2. Shek Ka-lim (SCAA) 11.9; 3. Pte. Winter (Army) 12.0; 4. Lee Wing-kai (HKSSA).

Heat 4—1. Stephen Xavier (HKSSA) 12.0 seconds; 2. Cpl. S. Larbey (Army) 12.1. (Only two ran).

Heat 5 — Wong Man-wan (SCAA) 12.1 seconds; 2.Lt. J. O. Cave (Milocarians) 12.3; 3. Yau Tak-kee (SCAA) 12.8.

Heat 6 — Quentin Almao (HKSSA) 11.6 seconds; 2. Chang Yat-hung (SCAA) 11.7; 3. Sgt. Hamzah (RAF) 11.8; 4.L/Bdr. M. C. Kirk (Army).

200 METRES

(First three from each heat qualified for the semi-finals)

Heat 1—1. Wong Man-wan (SCAA) 24.2 seconds; 2. Gnr. Brooks (Army); 3. CQMS G. Coleman (Army); 4. Pte. Winter (Army).

Heat 2—1. Quentin Almao (HKSSA) 24.5 seconds; 2. Shek Ka-lim (SCAA); 3.F/Lt. R. J. B. Roach (RAF); 4. Cpl. S. Larbey (Army); 5.L/Cpl. R. Clay (Army).

Heat 3—1 Lt. W. Shelley (Milocarians) 25 seconds; 2.F/O. G. H. B. Norris (RAF); 3. Stephen Xavier (HKSSA); 4. Pte. R. Laing (Army).

Heat 4—1. W. L. McCall (HKSSA) 24.7 seconds; 2. Sgt. Hamzah (RAF); 3. Cpl. R. McIlwaine (Army).

SEMI-FINALS

(Three from each heat to qualify for the final)

Heat 1—1. Stephen Xavier (HKSSA) 23.9 seconds; 2. Quentin Almao (HKSSA) 24.5; 3. Wong Man-wan (SCAA) 24.6; 4. Sgt. Hamzah (RAF) 24.7; 5. F/O. G. H. B. Norris (RAF) 25.2

Heat 2—1. W. L. McCall (HKSSA) 24.1 seconds; 2.F/Lt. R. J. B. Roach (RAF) 24.2; 3. Shek Ka-lim (SCAA) 24.3; 4. Lt. W. Shelley (Milocarians), 24.3; 5. Gnr. Brooks (Army) 24.4; 6. CQMS G. Coleman (Army) 24.8.

HIGH JUMP

Qualifying for the final by clearing 5 feet 2 inches were Victor Lai (University) and George Thumb (HKSSA) with no misses; Yam Wai-ling (SCAA) and Ling Sum (HKSSA) with one miss; S/Sgt. E. Hendley (Army) and Sgt. A. Walker (Army) with three misses.

Lt. J. Fortune and L/Cpl D. C. Gillies cleared 5 feet.

SHOT PUT FINAL

1. Chan Wai-chuen (SCAA) 37 feet 10½ inches; 2. Cpl. J. Douglas (Army) 35:11½; 3. L/Cpl. J. Harrison (Army) 35:0; 4. Dvr. G. Humphreys (Army) 34:0; 5. 2/Lt. G. R. Chadwick (Army) 33:2; 6. Spr. R. McEvoy (Army) 33:2; 7. Bdr. J. G. Hall (Army) 32:8; 8. S/Sgt. H. A. Wilson (Army) 32:7½; 9. Sgt. C. Small (Army) 31:8; 10. Sumpson Lee (Unat.) 31:3; 11. R. Heitmeyer (University) 30:7½; 12. Lau Kam-yiu (SCAA) 26:9.

400 METRES HURDLES FINAL

1. A. Collaco (HKSSA) 61.8 seconds; 2. P/O. C. Randall (Royal Navy) 64.7; 3. Bdsmn. J. McKechnie (Army) 65.8; 4. Hung Chee-kee (SCAA); 5. Hung Chee-yuen (SCAA); 6. S/Sgt. E. Handley (Army).

110 METRES HURDLES

(First two in each heat to qualify for the final)

Heat 1—1. Chang Yat-hung (SCAA) 17 seconds (Only one ran).

Heat 2—1 A. Collaco (HKSSA) 17.1 seconds; 2. Lt. J. O. Cave (Milocarians) 18.5. (Only two ran).

Heat 3—1. Sgt. P. Deadman (Army) 17.8 seconds; 2.Sgt. Walker (Army) 18.3; 3. Lt. W. I. Kyle-Milward (Army).

LADIES' EVENTS

100 METRES HEATS

(First three from each heat qualified for the final)

Heat 1—1. Poon Ching-woon (Unat.) 14.2 seconds; 2. Deborah Hurlbatt (HKSSA); 3. Lam Kak-lan (SCAA); 4. Joan Atherton (EYMCA).

Heat 2 — Jennifer Hart (HKSSA) 14.2 seconds; 2. Fok Wing-sheung (SCAA); 3. Wong Yee-man (SCAA); 4. Chan Shiu-kuen (Unat.); 5. Yeung Chee-kit (SCAA).

200 METRES

(First three in each heat qualified for the final).

Heat 1—1. Jennifer Hart (HKSSA) 30.0 seconds; 2. Poon Ching-woon (Unat.) 30.6; 3. Yeung Chee-kit (SCAA) 31.0; 4. Joan Atherton (EYMCA) 31.2; 5. Chan Yin-shiu (Unat.).

Heat 2—Rita Hall (HKSSA) 29.4 seconds; 2. Woo May-hing (Unat.) 30.6; 3. Lam Kak-lan (SCAA). (Only three ran).

100 METRES FINAL

1. Poon Ching-woon (Unat.) 13.4 seconds; 2. Lam Kak-lan (SCAA) 13.4; 3. Deborah Hurlbatt (HKSSA) 13.7; 4. Jennifer Hart (HKSSA) 13.8; 5. Fok Wing-sheung (SCAA) 13.8; 6. Wong Yee-man (SCAA) 14.0.

HIGH JUMP

Qualifying for the final by clearing 3 feet 11 inches were Jennifer Hart (HKSSA), Leung Ka-ling (Unat.), Leung Pik-kay (Unat.) and Joan Atherton (EYMCA) with no misses, Lee Po-chee (SCAA) with one miss and Tsui Shui-may (SCAA) with three misses. Lyn Harris (HKSSA) cleared 3 feet 10 inches.

Poor Weather At Practice Shoot

Due to poor weather conditions, much below average scores were returned in the Hongkong Rifle Association practice shoot held at the Kai Tak Ranges yesterday.

The highest individual score of 93 was obtained by Mr A. F. Xavier. But Mr J. Vivian won the spoon by handicap with 92 points.

Shootings were carried out in 300, 500, and 600 yard ranges.

SR(a):—Class A. Sgt Stevens, 80; M. Le-Var, 84; Major Edwards, 83; Class B. Major Blunt, 61; Class C. F. Harding, 85; D. Parker, 85.

SR(b):—Class A. W. Eu; Class B. G. LeMay, 89; G. T. Palmer, 85; F. M. Luz, 65; Class C. F. Brown, 69; B. Gollevsky, 62.

VILLEROSI WINS TURIN RACE

Turin, Apr. 6.

Luigi Villerosi, of Italy, driving a Ferrari, today won the Valentino Grand Prix motor race, in which two crack drivers narrowly escaped death.

Italy's Nino Farina and Hans Von Stuck, of Germany, both survived terrifying crashes.

Villerosi covered the 60-lap course of 252 kilometres (about 156 miles) in 2 hrs. 6 mins. 25.3 secs. at an average speed of 119.599 kilometres per hour (about 74 miles per hour).—Reuter.

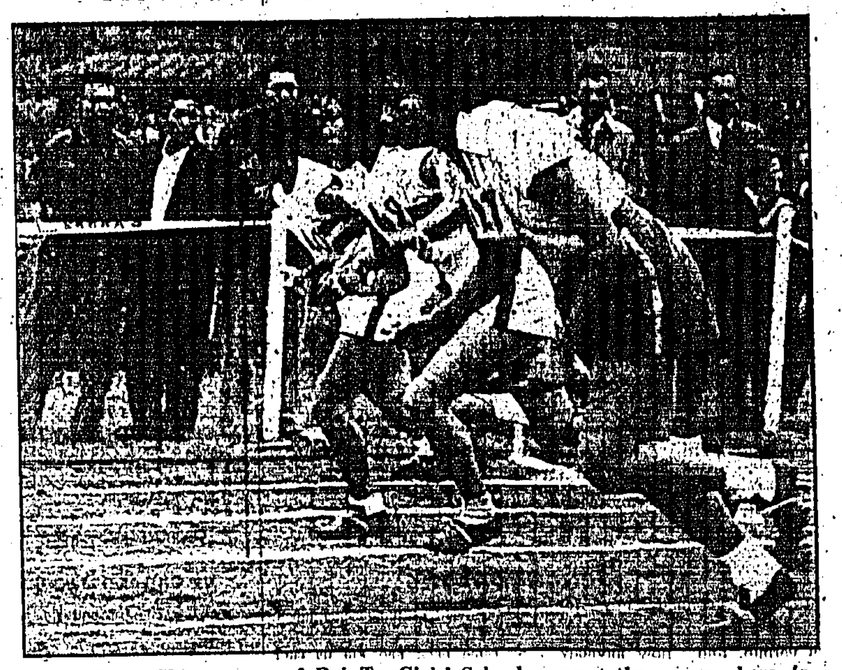
Nice And Bordeaux In French Cup Final

Paris, Apr. 6.

Nice and Bordeaux, first and second respectively in the French First Division, reached the final of the French Soccer Cup competition today.

Nice beat Rouen, a Second Division club, by three goals to one at Marseilles, while Bordeaux beat Lille 2-1 here after extra time.—Reuter.

THE COLONY'S FASTEST GIRLS



Poon Ching-woon, of Pui To Girls' School, nearest the camera here, is Hongkong's new Fastest Feminine Human and the fastest we have ever had with a new Colony record of 13.4 seconds.

Furthest from the camera among the three snapped at the start of the record-breaking 100 Yards at Boundary Street in February is South China's Lam Kak-lan, a French Convent School girl, who holds the 100 Yards record at 12.5 seconds and became joint holder yesterday of the new 100 Metres record, being beaten in a photo finish.

Between the two is Wong Yee-man, whose 100 Metres Colony record of 13.7 seconds was broken by the two yesterday.—Photo by Ross Miller.

Southeast Asian Athletic Standards Go Up With Philippine Olympic Bid

Southeast Asia's athletic standards have risen considerably over last year's, largely as a result of the effort being made by many Filipino athletes to win a trip to the Olympic Games and the considerable improvement over the past year in Taiwan's athletic standards.

Athletes of the year, without taking into account the season in Malaya just starting, are undoubtedly Tan Eng-long of Taiwan and Inocencia Solis of the Philippines.

Tan, who ran at the Olympic Games at London as Chen Ying-long, coming third in 50.9 seconds in the first heat of the 400 Metres to Reardon of Eire and Racic of Yugoslavia, set a new Asian record of 48.9 seconds at the Philippine National Championships without being pushed. He was followed home by Cipriano Nuera and Pablo Sublingo of the Philippines in 50.5 and 50.8 seconds.

The old record of 49 seconds was set by Keiji Imai of Japan in 1934. Tan Eng-long thus becomes the first Chinese to hold an Asian record and the only non-Filipino to hold a Southeast Asian record in the metric distances.

He was credited with 1 minute 59.8 seconds for 800 Metres in Taiwan in January and also won the Philippine 200 Metres Championship in 22.4 seconds, thus leading Southeast Asian athletes in three events.

Inocencia Solis, 19-year-old Iloilo girl, leads Southeast Asia's best performances among the women with 12.4 seconds for 100 Metres, 26.5 seconds for 200 Metres and 16 feet 6½ inches in the Long Jump.

ALL TEEN-AGERS

Most of Southeast Asia's women athletes are girls of 12 to 17, among them Ruth Ferreira of Singapore, a 12-year-old who won the Malayan High Jump Championship with 4 feet 8 inches, and Patrocinia Credo of East Visayas, a 13-year-old who has run 100 Metres in 13.1 seconds.

Hongkong's best sprinters are all in the 13 to 16 age group and are not far behind the best in Southeast Asia.

The Colony's only really outstanding athletes among the men are Stephen Xavier, Peter West, Joe MacMahon and Chang Yat-hung. There are also many more of our sprinters, middle distance men and jumpers in the ranking lists, but we have been left far behind in the weight events and the hurdles.

Xavier is one of the best sprinters in Asia, the best marks in recent months being the 10.6 seconds of Abdul Aziz of Pakistan and Hosoda Tomio of Japan. Aziz has also run 200 Metres in 21.6 seconds.

It is not improbable that Asian of Pakistan and one or two Japanese may have done 10.9 or better, but figures are not available. In any case, Xavier probably ranks in the first five in Asia in the 100 Metres and in the first ten in the 200 Metres.

Best athletic performances in Southeast Asia for the past 12 months (which include performances by Hongkong athletes in April, May and June last year as well as the current season) are:

100 METRES

Stephen Xavier (Hongkong)	10.6
Jackson Lee (Hongkong)	11.0
Cheung Yat-hung (Hongkong)	11.0
Jose Diuco (Manila)	11.0
Si A-long (Taiwan)	11.1
Wong Man-wan (Hongkong)	11.2
Eddie Loureiro (Hongkong)	11.2
Gaspar Azares (W. Visayas)	11.2
Magdaleno Galay (Manila)	11.2
L/Cpl. Daniels (Hongkong)	11.3
Gavino Cardona (C. Luzon)	11.3
Casimiro Bornilla (Bicol)	11.3

200 METRES

Tan Eng-long (Taiwan)	22.4
Stephen Xavier (Hongkong)	22.5
Cipriano Nuera (E. Visayas)	22.6
Si A-long (Taiwan)	22.6
Jackson Lee (Hongkong)	22.7
Tan Eng-yoon (Singapore)	*22.7
Berlo Abdurahin (Mindanao)	22.7
Gaspar Azares (Bicol)	22.7
Sgt. Hamzah (Hongkong)	22.8
Sidiquar Merican (Kelantan)	*22.9
Sgt. Martindale (Johore)	*22.9
R. J. B. Roach (Hongkong)	22.9
A. A. Atapini (Hongkong)	22.9

*Less 0.1 second for performance over 220 yards.

400 METRES

Tan Eng-long (Taiwan)	48.9
Cipriano Nuera (E. Visayas)	50.5
Cletus Gomez (Perak)	*50.7
Pablo Sublingo (W. Visayas)	50.8
M. Parry (Selangor)	*51.0
K. Balakrishnan (Selangor)	*51.7
Chen Cheng-chi (Taiwan)	51.8
Melecio Becara (Manila)	51.8
Leoncio Zabala (Bicol)	52.6
Norman Lo (Hongkong)	*52.7
Ng Yuen-fok (Hongkong)	52.8
Erasmo Arellano (Mindanao)	52.9

*Less 0.3 second for performance over 440 yards.

800 METRES

Tan Eng-long (Taiwan)	1:59.8
Cecil Clay (Singapore)	*2:00.5
H. Andison (Hongkong)	*2:01.1
Koch Keng-lim (Taiwan)	2:02.6
U Hi-ui (Taiwan)	2:03.0
A. Butterworth (Hongkong)	*2:03.3
Artemio Puedan (Mindanao)	2:03.4
A. Panjaretnam (Singapore)	*2:03.5
Melecio Besara (Manila)	2:03.6
Teodulo Tay (Bicol)	2:04.8
J. P. MacMahon (Hongkong)	2:05.0
Leoncio Zabala (Bicol)	2:05.2

*Less 0.8 second for performance over 880 yards.

1,500 METRES

Artemio Puedan (Mindanao)	4:07.0
U Hi-ui (Taiwan)	4:10.4
Lau Keng-chun (Taiwan)	4:16.0
Tomas Benit (N. Luzon)	4:20.4
J. P. MacMahon (Hongkong)	4:27.5
J. Stephenson (Hongkong)	4:29.0
Frank Taylor (Hongkong)	4:29.8
Norman Elton (W. Visayas)	4:29.0
M. McCord (Hongkong)	4:31.0
S. Llavore (Manila)	4:34.4

HIGH HURDLES

Ng Liang-chiang (Singapore)	15.2
Ong Ho-chiong (Taiwan)	15.2
Lloyd Valberg (Singapore)	15.5
Tan Chin-kit (Pahang)	15.6
Jovencio Ardina (Manila)	15.8
Gilberto Indiana (W. Visayas)	15.9
Jaime Pimentel (Manila)	15.9
Luo Shu-meng (Taiwan)	16.0
B. Arcand (E. Visayas)	16.0
Angel Aquino (Bicol)	16.3

LOW HURDLES

Jaime Pimentel (Manila)	55.6
Ng Liang-chiang (Singapore)	*56.6
Ern. Rodriguez (W. Visayas)	56.7
Han Bun-zai (Taiwan)	57.0
Melanio Sumalinog (Bohol)	57.3
Roberto Poculan (Manila)	57.4
Gilberto Indiana (W. Visayas)	57.6
Wenceslao Mendoza (Manila)	58.2
R. Sivapatham (Singapore)	*58.7
K. Laxman (Selangor)	*59.2
A. Abayan (E. Visayas)	59.2

*Less 0.3 second for performance over 440 yards.

HIGH JUMP

Andres Franco (Manila)	6: 2¼
Lloyd Valberg (Singapore)	6: 1
Poon Weng-choon (Selangor)	6: 0¾
Ronald da Silva (Singapore)	6: 0
Abdul Aziz (Borneo)	5:11¼
Gavino Cabagay (Nueva Ecija)	5:11
J. Dallywater (Hongkong)	5:10½
Victor Lai (Hongkong)	5: 9
Ng Kiong-beng (Taiwan)	5: 9¾
Severo Boliva (E. Visayas)	5: 9

POLE VAULT

Bienvenido Lucero (C. Luzon)	11: 6
Chew Hai-yuen (Singapore)	11: 5
Ng Kian (Taiwan)	11: 3
Toribio Rivera (Manila)	11: 3
Yee Tit-kwan (Hongkong)	11: 1½
Kermal Singh (Selangor)	11: 0¼
Ng Teng-kai (Taiwan)	10:10
K. E. Wake (Hongkong)	10: 9
Ernesto Canas (Laguna)	10: 6
Segismundo Hilao (Manila)	10: 6

LONG JUMP

T. Moynan (Hongkong)	21:10
Lloyd Valberg (Singapore)	21: 5
Chong Koon-how (Selangor)	21: 3¼
Ng Ming-sum (Hongkong)	21: 1½
Ng Kian (Taiwan)	21: 1½
T. Jamiotillo (E. Visayas)	21: 1
Si A-long (Taiwan)	21: 0½
Stephen Xavier (Hongkong)	20:11½
Mahmood (Selangor)	20:10
S/Sgt. Wilson (Hongkong)	20: 9½

HOP, STEP & JUMP

Can Peng-hun (Taiwan)	45: 7
Lloyd Valberg (Singapore)	45: 3
Ng Kian (Taiwan)	44:11¾
Lim Tiang-quee (Singapore)	44: 3
Lee Weng-soon (Selangor)	44: 0
Cheng Yat-hung (Hongkong)	43: 2
Segismundo Hilao (Manila)	43: 0¼
Tan Eng-yoon (Singapore)	42:10½
Sgt. Hesling (Hongkong)	42:10½
Go Chun-chai (Taiwan)	42: 9½

SHOT PUT

Che Phai-lim (Taiwan)	43: 4¾
Artemio Cortes (Manila)	43: 2¾
Lau Kheng (Taiwan)	43: 2½
J. F. Greer (Hongkong)	40: 9
A. Sibidol (Borneo)	40: 3
H. P. Westhead (Hongkong)	39:11¾
Al Niedzalkowski (Manila)	39: 8
M. Macapagal (Manila)	39: 4
Sarmukh Singh (Perak)	39: 0¾
Chan Wai-chuen (Hongkong)	37:10½
R. Heitmeyer (Hongkong)	37: 8

DISCUS THROW

Che Phai-lim (Taiwan)	135: 3
Lau Kheng (Taiwan)	122: 0
Artemio Cortes (Manila)	121: 4½
Aurelio Amante (Manila)	120: 8½
Nesbitt (Hongkong)	120: 1
Pawlowski (Hongkong)	111: 1
Rene Ballerand (Hongkong)	110: 9
Paulino Junio (Bicol)	110: 7
Arthur McColm (Singapore)	109: 6½
J. F. Greer (Hongkong)	107: 9

JAVELIN THROW

Paulino Junio (Bicol)	165: 6¾
Tan Huck-chiang (Selangor)	163: 8
H. M. Taylor (Singapore)	179: 8
Cpl. Williams (Perak)	175: 7
Go Chun-chai (Taiwan)	174:11
Pascual Vellaroman (Manila)	107:11
Bok Sek-in (Taiwan)	166: 1½
D. J. McNabb (Hongkong)	165: 6
Chan Wai-chuen (Hongkong)	162: 4¾
L.S. Villaruel (Manila)	164: 4½
Artemio Cortes (Manila)	163: 4½
W. Bacud (Manila)	161:11½

GIRLS' EVENTS

100 METRES

Inocencia Sols (W. Visayas)	12.4
Patrocinia Credo (E. Visayas)	13.1
Estrella Lupina (E. Visayas)	13.4
Poon Ching-woon (Hongkong)	13.4
Lam Kak-lan (Hongkong)	13.4
E. Balan (C. Luzon)	13.5
Felicia de los Reyes (C. Luzon)	13.5
Rogelia Ferrer (W. Visayas)	13.5
Wong Yee-man (Hongkong)	13.7
Deborah Hurlbatt (Hongkong)	13.7

200 METRES

Inocencia Sols (W. Visayas)	28.5
Tang Pei-wah (Singapore)	*27.2
Rogelia Ferrer (W. Visayas)	28.1
R. Amore (E. Visayas)	28.2
A. Camas (E. Visayas)	28.4
Fay Siebel (Selangor)	*28.6
Chan Seolan (Selangor)	*28.8
Hiang Min-chu (N. Sembilan)	29.0
E. Balan (C. Luzon)	29.0
R. Upinga (C. Luzon)	29.0

*Less 0.1 second for performance over 220 yards.

HIGH JUMP

Juanita Grupo (W. Visayas)	4:10
Ruth Ferreira (Singapore)	4: 8
Ong Soon-kheng (Johore)	4: 8
Salome Santos (Nueva Ecija)	4: 7
Tomas (Ilocos Norte)	4: 7
Fernandita Galing (E. Visayas)	4: 6
Neela Rajaretnam (Selangor)	4: 5½
Tang Pei-wah (Singapore)	4: 5
Julia Tingay (Hongkong)	4: 5
Valerie Jillett (Hongkong)	4: 5

LONG JUMP

Inocencia Solis (W. Visayas)	16: 6¼
Yap Kwan-thye (Perak)	15: 7¾
Nicole Simmons (Hongkong)	15: 0¼
Deborah Hurlbatt (Hongkong)	14: 0
Penny Sit (Hongkong)	13: 8½
Jennifer Hart (Hongkong)	13: 8¼
Juliet Lin (Hongkong)	13: 8
Rita Hall (Hongkong)	13: 5½
Beow Phay-tong (Perang)	13: 5½
Caempido (Tarlac)	13: 4¼

THE GAMBOLS . . . by Barry Appleby

The Way To Stop The Soccer Slump

By IVAN SHARPE

Alarming accounts of a Soccer slump are not yet justified, as the fall in attendances for the first half of the season in the Football League was only two per cent.

Indeed, the Cinderella Third Division (North) can be said to have been visited by two fairy godmothers. The relegated Chesterfield and Grimsby have brought with them bigger-than-average gates to increase the total attendances.

The Second Division has equalled last year's crowds. One after the other, places like Sheffield, Birmingham, Cardiff, Leicester, Nottingham and Rotherham have headed the promotion queue, and now Leeds, Everton, Blackburn and Brentford are lengthening the line.

But for the many clubs no longer vitally interested in Cup and League, a testing time is near.

Some have had the opportunities to provide for the rainy day. Between 1946 and 1950 Manchester United showed profits of £150,000, and even Burnley pocketed £60,000. In two years, Stoke City were £75,000 up and the 'Spurs £68,000.

ECONOMY NOW

For the great majority, however, economy now becomes essential. There should be experiments instead of transfers. I commend to them these acts of transformation:

Aston Villa have switched an international centre-half, Con Martin, into goal. Jimmy Adamson, a forward, has been turned by Burnley into a first-class half-back.

A switch made Stanley Cullis of the Wolves the outstanding attacking centre-half of his time. Tom Berry, of Hull City, found his way to centre-half via outside-forward, wing-half, and full-back.

Billy Wright, of the Wolves, was inside and outside forward before becoming an international half-back: likewise, the admirable Watson of Sunderland.

Outside-forwards like George Camsell (Middlesbrough), Jackie Milburn (Newcastle United) and Jack Rowley (Manchester United) have been changed into international centre-forwards.

Alan Morton, a right-footer, became Scotland's darling when moved to outside-left; Tom Finney, Preston international, is a left-footer at outside-right.

Yes, experiments with players instead of continual transfer money, money, money talk would be a welcome change.

RIGHT WAY

The biggest slump is approaching the First Division. Why? "Those who have the game at heart are seriously perturbed about the standard of play," says William Murray, manager of Sunderland. "Unless something is done, the game may fall into disrepute."

For years he has advocated suspension of promotion and relegation in order to relieve tension and restore skill.

Grounds, like players, get too much wear and tear. Again the 'Spurs have set the right example. Accused of "trying to be too classy," they reply through Arthur Rowe: "We will change the pitch, not the style. Mud has been beating us."

So, like Glasgow Rangers a year or so back, they are spending £10,000 on redraining and returfing their ground.

Money well spent. Why pour out £30,000 on a star and set him to play on a ploughed field?

SCOT'S WARNING

In Scotland they are seeing the red light. So sound a judge as director-manager George Anderson, of Dundee, strongly urges reorganisation of the Scottish League into three divisions of only 12 clubs each. Thus:

Div.	Min. admission	Max. wage
1	2s. 6d.	£20 weekly
2	1s. 6d.	£12 "
3	1s. 0d.	£8 "

He also proposes suspension of promotion and relegation in order to allow players to mature.

We need a George Anderson in England to propose a redistribution of the Football League clubs into five smaller groups, so streamlining the present over-long 40-match marathon, quickening public interest, and leaving dates for a Football League Cup. Not as a rival to the FA Cup: as a sideline guaranteeing a fixed number of home and away ties to all competitors, on the system so popular in Scotland.

ALL-IN CUP?

An FA Cup change is desired by Southend United. They ask the Third Division clubs to support a scheme whereby all 92 Football League teams start out in the Cup together.

This means a round of 128 clubs: that is, 64 matches on one date. Too much of a shipping order. Besides, the Newcastles and Aston Villas would not like two more rounds against the giant-killers.

But the Third Division may now receive more votes—eight instead of four. Mr E. J. Carter of Reading, chairman of the Third Division (South), says: "We feel we have served our apprenticeship."

That's true enough. A combination 30 years of age, and embracing 22 former First and Second Division clubs, is no longer a learner.

American Swimming Team At Helsinki Will Be The Strongest Ever

By TED SMITS

New Haven, Connecticut, Apr. 6.

America's Olympic swimming coaches, after reviewing the National AAU performances, declared today the men's team for the Helsinki Games will be the strongest ever from the United States—but warned there will be no repetition of the clean sweep scored in 1948.

"It's natural it will be the best team we ever had because performances . . . are faster, and we have great depth," said Matt Mann, new Olympic head coach.

"We're not going to sweep things, however," warned Mike Peppe of Ohio State, Assistant Coach. "Japan, in particular, is very strong with a well balanced team, and other nations have individual stars, such as France, Germany, Mexico, Brazil, Australia, Argentina, and Sweden and maybe Russia."

This is the first time in two decades that Yale's famous coach, Bob Kiphuth, is not head of the Olympic staff.

Swimmers who established themselves as potential Olympic swimmers in the three-day meet at Yale were Ford Konno of Ohio State, the sleek little Hawaiian who won three distance titles; Clark Scholes, Michigan State, winner of the 100 yards and Dick Cleveland, Ohio State, the runner-up; Dick Thoman, Yale's backstroke champion, Wayne Moore and Jimmy McLane, together with Yale's new freshman sprint sensation, Kerr Donovan.

AUSTRALIAN HOPE

Australia, however, presented a possible Olympic winner in John Davies, of Michigan, who won two breast stroke championships here.

"Jerry Hoin of Ohio State is our best hope against him," said Peppe. "Bowen Stasse of Iowa, and Bob Brawner, Princeton, are possibilities. Germany has Herbert Klein, who has the best time of all."

John Marshall, the Australian who goes to Yale and who won three National Championships last year, was far below his world record performances.

Here is Peppe's rundown on the Olympics:

"We are stronger than Japan in sprints, with Scholes, and we are strong in the middle and long distances. We have the best divers in the world. Davies looks like the winner in the breast stroke, but we should be on top in the back stroke and the relay."

The final Olympic swimming tryouts will be held in New York on July 3-5. The Olympic Games are in Helsinki, July 19-August 3.

The New Haven Swim Club, composed of all varieties of Yale swimmers, won the team championship here with 113 points compared to 97 for Ohio State.—Associated Press.

THE NEW GUERNICA

(Continued from Page 4)

The Spanish Republic, which had begun to restore Basque autonomy, is itself only a memory, destroyed by General Franco and his Nazi and Fascist allies.

The guitar on which Iparraguirre, as a wandering exile in London, used to play his Tree of Guernica, the national anthem of his compatriots, is now a silent object of veneration in the museum.

A group of 16 Basques is even now awaiting trial for organising a 48-hour strike last spring against the cost of living. Since the very act of striking—a crime in Franco Spain as in the Communist countries—also involves the further crimes of "illicit association" and "illegal propaganda," the Public Prosecutor demands three separate sentences, each of seven years, because these men, employers as well as employees, dared to protest against high costs and corruption.

The coast road from Guernica towards San Sebastian is, I think, as beautiful as the coast road from Capetown towards the Cape.

But I drove, unhappy and bewildered, through its little fishing ports and above its wine-dark sea.

Unhappy to think how accustomed we have become to such tragic crimes as the bombing of a peaceful little town. Bewildered by the difficulty of finding a reply to the bully, the tyrant and the demagogue. "Nine out of ten of us," said a Basque to me in Bilbao, "hate Franco. Ten out of ten of us prefer Franco to another civil war."

Tomorrow: Gibraltar

Konno Gains Triple Crown

New Haven, Apr. 6.

Hawaiian-born Ford Konno has established himself as America's brightest hope for the Olympic swimming events when he completed the "treble" in the Amateur Athletic Union Swimming Championships here last night.

Konno won the 440 yards freestyle in 4 mins. 34.5 secs.

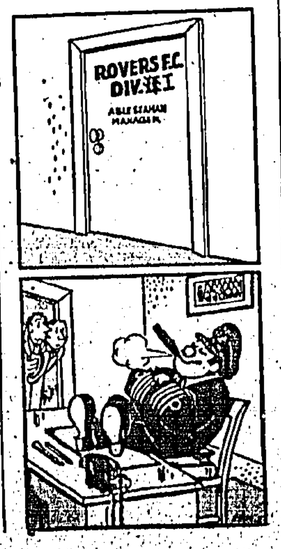
He had previously captured the 220 yards and the 1,500-metres free-style championships and thus took over the "triple crown" won last year by John Marshall, the Australian Olympic star.—Reuter.

Fencing Finalists

The following finalists will take part in the Open Colony Championship at the European YMCA on Wednesday evening:

Foils.—L/Bdr Perry, Fld, RA; G. Ozorio, RHKDF; SI Hudson, APTC; J. Tong, Chinese YMCA; J. Ozorio, YMCA; Major Cowley, RNF; SSI Coady, APTC; Cpl J. de Couto Marcal, RHKDF.

Sabres.—SI Docherty, APTC; Major Cowley, RNF; QMSI Day, APTC; Lt Daniels, RNF; F/Lt Templing, RAF; Lt Strange, RASC; SSI Coady, APTC; Cpl J. de Couto Marcal, RHKDF.



Snooker & Billiards Champions

A. P. "Spotty" Pereira and S. P. Pong, winners of the Colony Open Snooker and Billiards Championship respectively, snapped with the trophies they won at Club Lusitano on Friday night.—China Mail Photo.

American Thomas Cup Team Faced With Malaya Trip Problem

Boston, Apr. 6.

The American Thomas Cup badminton squad, having defeated Canada for the right to go to Singapore, now is turning its attention to the financial problems of the trip.

The Americans will meet the European Zone Champions in Singapore for the right to meet Cup-holding Malaya in the Challenge Round late in May.

"Each of our players will make personal economic sacrifices by going to Singapore," said Donald Richardson of Waban, Mass., president and founder of the American Badminton Association.

"Because of these economic problems, we are not yet able to say exactly, which men will make the trip," Richardson said. "After all, each man has a job, and some of them have essential jobs which cannot spare them for a whole month. And those whose jobs are not in essential industry will have to consider the loss of a month's pay.

"Also, we must consider the expenses of the long trip. We have talked with military officials about the possibility of our team holding "en route clinics" of badminton exhibitions in distant American military installations in return for flight passage to Singapore.

FUND-RAISING DRIVE

Richardson said the ABA has some money left over from the last Thomas Cup matches at Glasgow in February of 1949, and that 2200 badminton clubs in 20 states now will begin a fund-raising drives.

"These clubs waited until the results of the Canada-USA matches were available before they began their work," Richardson smiled, "since Canada was a strong opponent, and we barely won, 5 to 3. Now the clubs are really going to work, but of course it is too early to know any results."

Khoo Teik Ee, President of the Malayan Badminton Association, in a recent letter to Richardson guaranteed all expenses paid after the matches.

"So our financial problems are really not serious," said Richardson. "Even if the club campaigns do not produce the full amount needed, we have a couple of wealthy badminton fans who are willing to underwrite expenses."—United Press.

TODAY'S SPORT

Soccer

1st Division.—Kowloon Motor Bus v Eastern at Boundary Street; Kwong Wah v Army at Happy Valley. Kick-off 5.45 p.m.

Fencing

Colony Open Championships at European YMCA, Kowloon, commencing 6 p.m.

Meeting

Amateur Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hongkong at Victoria Recreation Club, 5.30 p.m.

Snooker

George Younger Colony Championship.—K.C.C. II v Eastern II; Kowloon T.C. v Lusitano II; South China v C.P.O. Tamar; P.O. Tamar v Prison Officers C.; R.A.F. v Chargemen's M.

Sam Snead Wins Masters' Golf Tournament

Augusta, Georgia, Apr. 6.

Sam Snead, making giddy recoveries on a windblown course, won his second Masters' golf crown with a total of 286 today.

First the usually cool Ben Hogan, then the tempestuous Tommy Bolt succumbed to the last-nine pressure in the big tournament, while Snead made it one under par in the pay-off stretch.

Snead was the only man to break the 288 par. His 286 was the highest ever to take the Masters in its 16 outings.—United Press.

Hashim Khan In Squash Final

London, Apr. 5.

Hashim Khan of Pakistan and Mahmoud Karim of Egypt, a former holder, will contest the final of the Open Squash Rackets Championship at the Lansdowne Club, London, on Monday.

In the semi-finals to-day, the Pakistan player beat G. Mildick Smith of South Africa, the amateur champion, by 9-2, 9-0 and 9-2, while the Egyptian won 9-2, 9-4 and 9-3 against Brian Phillips, a Kent amateur.—Reuter.

BELGIUM BEATS HOLLAND 4-2

Antwerp, Apr. 6.

Belgium beat Holland by four goals to two in an international soccer match before a crowd of 65,000 here today. The score was 2-2 at half-time.

Steady rain and a strong wind made conditions difficult. Centre-forward Coppens scored two goals for Belgium and Anoul and Lemberechts one each. Van Dertuyn and Van Melis scored for Holland.—Reuter.

Jake LaMotta Fights Hayes On Friday

New York, Apr. 6.

Former Middleweight Champion Jake LaMotta returns to Detroit on Wednesday to meet Norman Hayes of Boston in the feature bout of an otherwise drab fight card this week:

The bout gives LaMotta a chance to reverse a January 23 split decision which went to Hayes and an opportunity to break a winless streak which began when Sugar Ray Robinson won the Middleweight crown from him on February 14, 1951.

His last victory, in fact, was a successful title defence — in Detroit — against Laurent Dauthuille of France on September 13, 1950.

Hayes, 20-year-old Boston negro, will have a 10-year advantage over Jake in age in the bout.

The Friday night programme at St. Nicholas Arena, New York, features Arthur King of Toronto and Del Flanagan of St. Paul. Both are listed as lightweights:—King is the former British Empire lightweight champion—but they have welterweight aspirations, and a victory would help, whichever class they decide to fight in.

King has beaten Fitzie Ruden of St. Catherine's, Ontario, twice this year, largely on his stiff left jab, while Flanagan has won only one of three bouts in 1952.

Their records are almost identical. King has won 51, lost seven, while Flanagan has won 53, fought two draws and lost five.—Associated Press.

France Beats Wales In Rugby League

Bordeaux, Apr. 6.

France beat Wales by 20 points (seven goals, two tries) to 12 (three goals, two tries) in the Rugby League international match here today. They led by 9-7 at the interval.

The game, which produced some sparkling rugby, was watched by a big crowd in perfect weather. A feature of the match was the brilliant kicking of the seasoned French fullback, Puig Aubert, who scored 14 points with three dropped goals, two penalty goals and two conversions.

In the first half France gave the more spectacular display and were only prevented from scoring more frequently by keen Welsh tackling.

The outcome was in doubt until five minutes from the end, when the French wing three-quarter, Contrastin, crossed for a try and Aubert converted.

The result left France and "Other Nationalities" at the top of the International table each with four points but Other Nationalities have one more game to play—against England on April 23. Wales have lost all their three international games this season.—Reuter.

Australian Girl In Training For The Channel Race

Sydney.

Fifteen-year-old Jennifer Jill Campbell, in training for the next English Channel swimming race, recently broke the Australian women's record for a mile.

She covered the distance in 26 mins. 15.1 secs. in the fourth of a five mile swim. The previous record was set in 1934 by Edna Davey.

Miss Campbell will be the first Australian woman to compete in the Channel swim.—Reuter.

Hockey Results

The following are the results of hockey matches played yesterday:

1st Division.—Thunderbolts 4, HKU 1.

2nd Division.—Argonauts "B" 7, Nomads 0.

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THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

EASTER RACE MEETING

Saturday, 12th & Monday, 14th April, 1952

(Held under the Rules of The Hong Kong Jockey Club)

The First Bell will be rung at 11.30 a.m. and the first race will be run at 12.00 Noon, each day. The tiffin interval is after the fourth race (1.30 p.m.)

There are twelve races each day (24 in all).

Through Tickets at $48.00 each may be obtained at the Compradore Office of the Treasurers, 1st floor, Telephone House, also tickets at $2.00 each for the Cash Sweep on the last race of the Meeting on 14th April as well as the Special Cash Sweep on the "Hong Kong Derby" scheduled to be run on 31st May, 1952.

Through Tickets reserved for this Meeting but not paid for by 10.00 a.m. on Friday, 11th April, will be sold and the reservation cancelled for future meetings.

To avoid congestion at the Club's Offices at Telephone House, non-members are requested to purchase their sweep tickets at the Club's Branch Offices at:—

5, D'Aguilar Street, Hong Kong
or
382, Nathan Road, Kowloon.

TOTALISATOR

The attention of Totalisator Investors is drawn to the following rules:—

Dividends will be paid on the winning and placed ponies so declared by the Stewards when the "All Clear" is given. The "All Clear" signal will be indicated by a white light at the Totalisator Tower. BACKERS ARE ADVISED NOT TO DESTROY OR THROW AWAY THEIR TICKETS UNTIL AFTER THE "ALL CLEAR" SIGNAL HAS BEEN EXHIBITED.

Totalisator Tickets should be examined and checked before leaving the Selling Counters as mistakes of any description cannot be rectified later.

Cash received in respect of Dividends should be checked before leaving the Pay-Out Counters as no claim for short payment of the value of tickets presented can be entertained once Investors have left the Counters.

All winning tickets and tickets for refunds must be presented for payment at the Race Course on the day to which they refer, but none will be paid later than one hour after the time for which the last race of the day has been scheduled to be run.

In no circumstances will any Dividends be paid or refunds made unless a ticket is produced. Payment WILL NOT be made on torn or disfigured tickets.

MEMBERS' BADGES AND ENCLOSURE

MEMBERS ARE INFORMED THE 1952 SETS OF MEMBERS AND LADIES' BADGES NOW SUPERSEDE THE PREVIOUS ISSUE.

Members and guests are reminded that they and their ladies MUST wear their badges prominently displayed throughout the Meeting.

NO ONE WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE.

Badges admitting ladies not in possession of Brooches or Season tickets and gentlemen, non-members of the Club, to the Members' Enclosure and Club Rooms at $10.00 per day including tax, for ladies or gentlemen are obtainable through the Secretary at Telephone House, on the written or personal introduction of a Member, such member to be responsible for all visitors introduced by him, and for payment of all chits, etc.

Only a limited number of badges admitting to Members' Enclosure will be on sale at the Race Course.

The Branch Offices, the Treasurers' Compradore Office and the Secretary's Office will close at 10.00 a.m. each day. The Treasurers' Compradore Office and the Secretary's Office are situated at 1st Floor, Telephone House.

A limited number of tiffins will be obtainable at the Club House provided they are ordered in advance from the No. 1 Boy (Tel. 27818).

NO CHILDREN WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE CLUB'S PREMISES DURING THE MEETING.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE

The Price of admission to the Public Enclosure will be $3.00 including tax for all persons including Ladies, and will be payable at the Gate.

Any person leaving the Public Enclosure during a Meeting will forfeit his or her right of admission to the Enclosure and will be required to pay the requisite fee of $3.00 in order to gain re-admission.

No re-admission tickets will be issued in future.

BOOKMAKERS, TIC TAC MEN, ETC., WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO OPERATE WITHIN THE PRECINCTS OF HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

MEALS AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE OBTAINABLE IN THE RESTAURANT IN THE PUBLIC ENCLOSURE.

SERVANTS' PASSES

Servants' passes will be issued to private box holders only, who are requested to distribute them with discrimination and to endorse their names on the passes. Holders of such passes are not permitted in the Members' Enclosure except for passing through on their duties and must remain in their employers' stands.

Owing to the congestion in the Members' Betting Hall and at Booths adjacent to Boxes in the Coffee Room, Box-holders and Members are requested to ensure that their servants make use only of the Public Betting Hall. Military Police will be posted at various points in the enclosure to ensure that this regulation is adhered to.

By Order,
H. MISA,
Secretary.

NOTICE

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

Attention is drawn to the following regulation regarding admission to the Public Enclosure on race days, effective as from 1st April, 1952:—

The Price of admission to the Public Enclosure will be $3.00 including tax for all persons including Ladies, and will be payable at the Gate.

Any person leaving the Public Enclosure during a Meeting will forfeit his or her right of admission to the Enclosure and will be required to pay the requisite fee of $3.00 in order to gain re-admission.

No re-admission tickets will be issued in future.

By Order,
H. MISA,
Secretary.

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"SHENGKING"	Keelung	5 p.m.	9th Apr.*
"YOCHOW"	Keelung, Yokohama, Nagoya & Kobe	Noon	9th Apr.
"HUPEH"	Tientsin	10 a.m.	13th Apr.
"SOOCHOW"	Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka & Kobe	5 p.m.	15th Apr.
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	5 p.m.	17th Apr.*
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ARRIVALS FROM

"HUPEH"	Tientsin	7th Apr.
"FUKIEN"	Indonesia & Sibu	8/9th Apr.
"SOOCHOW"	Bangkok	12/13th Apr.
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	7 a.m. 14th Apr.

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"CHANGTE"	Sydney & Melbourne	11th May

ARRIVALS FROM

"ANKING"	Australia	13th Apr.
"CHANGTE"	Australia & Manila	20th Apr.
"TAIYUAN"	Australia & Manila	27th Apr.
"CHANGTE"	Japan	8th May

BLUE FUNNEL LINE

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"AENEAS"	Dublin & Liverpool	26th Apr.
"PERSEUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	6th May

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	Sails Liverpool	Sails Rotterdam	Arrives Hong Kong
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G. "PERSEUS"	do	Sailed	17th Apr.
S. "AGAPENOR"	do	—	24th Apr.
G. "CALCHAS"	do	—	1st May
G. "AUTOMEDON"	do	—	11th May
G. "PYRRHUS"	12th Apr.	16th Apr.	17th May
S. "ATREUS"	18th Apr.	—	23rd May
G. "BELLEROPHON"	25th Apr.	—	31st May
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DEATHS

BERNARD-SILVA—Camilla Bayard, age 71 years, mother of Millie, Cynthia, Romilo and Alvaro; sister of Aures Ribeiro and Mary Barretto; grandmother of Sheila, Peter and Michel. Funeral to be held at Happy Valley on Tuesday, April 8, 1952, at 5.30 p.m.

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Consignees per
AUSTRALIA-WEST PACIFIC LINE
m/s "CITOS"

are hereby notified that their cargo is being discharged into the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co's godown where it will be at consignees risk and subject to the Wharf's terms and condition of storage, and where delivery may be obtained.

Damaged packages are to be left in the godowns for examination by Consignees and the Company's surveyors, Messrs. Carmichael & Clarke at 10 a.m. on the 8th April, 1952.

To comply with the General Bonded Warehouse Regulations, consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when damaged dutiable goods are examined.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the steamer's godown, and all goods remaining undelivered after the 9th April, 1952, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to be Undersigned on or before the 16th April, 1952, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

DODWELL & CO., LTD.
Agents.

Hongkong, 2nd April, 1952.

NOTICE

WHEELOCK MARDEN & CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that Certificates for 300 Shares, details as shown below, have been declared lost, and should such Certificates not be produced before 5th May, 1952, they shall be deemed CANCELLED and of NO EFFECT.

Shareholder	Cert. No.	Distinctive Nos.	No. of Shares
CHANG HONG-KWEI	14984	392812 — 392911	100
	9406	20396 — 20495	100
	13789	378578 — 378677	100
			300

By Order of the Board,
P. O. SCALES,
Asst. Secretary.

5th April, 1952.

British Merchants See Peking Delegates

Moscow, Apr. 6.

British merchants attending the Soviet-sponsored International Economic Conference have talked with Communist Chinese delegates and found them eager to trade with Britain.

In a statement, the Britons said "We held preliminary talks with the Chinese delegation and found there was considerable interest in doing business."

"It is quite clear," the statement said, "that these people (the Chinese) didn't come here to engage in propaganda or shoot off hot air, but to do business."

The delegations have exchanged lists of each country's available commodities and this information has been sent to Chambers of Commerce and business associations in Britain with the request that they contribute suggestions for fostering British-Chinese trade.

Several British delegates plan to go to Peking after the Moscow parley, the statement said, and continue trade talks there.

The President of Russia's Chamber of Commerce, M. V. Nesterov, said in a speech before the 40-nation conference on Saturday that the West's trade blockade against China was "outrageous."—Associated Press.

Polish Embassy Complies

Washington, Apr. 6.

The Polish Embassy announced yesterday that it was complying with a State Department demand that it should stop publication of its propaganda bulletins in the United States.

The Secretary of State, Mr Dean Acheson, ordered the Embassy on March 21 to cease publishing its bi-monthly magazine "Poland" and to issue no more Press releases without the approval of the State Department. — Reuter.

JULIANA'S VISIT TO TENNESSEE

Knoxville, Tenn. Apr. 6.

Arrangements have been completed for receiving Queen Juliana and Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands when they arrive by air here on Thursday to visist the Tennessee Valley Authority.

The royal couple will be accompanied by Mr John Simmons, chief of protocol of the U.S. Department of State, Rear-Admiral Emmet Forrestal, American aide to the Queen and Prince, Miss M. Tekegen, director of the Queen's Cabinet, Baron Van Heeckeren van Molecaten, private secretary to the Queen, and other officials.

The party will be met at the municipal airport by TVA officials, Governor and Mrs Gordon Browning and Mayor George Dempster of Knoxville.

The special plane carrying the royal couple is expected to arrive about noon and the group will go directly to the restaurant in Norris Dam State Park.

The restaurant is not yet ready for regular season's business but it will be opened for this occasion.

Following the luncheon the royal couple will view the dam and lake after which they will be shown the powerhouse.—United Press.

DISCUSSIONS IN CAIRO

Cairo, Apr. 6.

The Saadist Party leader, Ibrahim Abdel Hadi Pasha, and the Liberal Party leader, Husein Heikal Pasha, conferred with Premier Hilaly Pasha today.

It was understood their meeting concerned procedure in the forthcoming elections.

Earlier, the Party led by ex-Premier Ibrahim Abdel Hadi Pasha announced the nomination of 200 candidates in various constituencies of Egypt. A supplementary list will be announced later.

The total number of constituencies is 319. — United Press.

P&O B.I. E&A COMPANIES

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL S.N. CO.

PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	Leaves London	Arrives Hongkong
"CANTON"	6th March	7th April
"CARTHAGE"	2nd April	4th May
"CHUSAN"	9th April	8th May

Via Southampton, Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Penang & Singapore.

Homewards	Leaves Hongkong	Due London
"CANTON"	11th April	12th May
"CHUSAN"	8th May	2nd June
"CARTHAGE"	9th May	9th June

Accepting cargo for Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay, Aden & London.

FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	From	For
"SURAT"	London & Continent	Japan

Accepting cargo for Singapore, Port Swettenham, Penang, Colombo, Aden, Genoa, Marseilles, London Hamburg, Antwerp & Rotterdam, with liberty to call at Bombay if inducement offers.

Tanks available for carriage of oil in Bulk. Space for refrigerated cargo. Limited passenger accommodation.

BRITISH INDIA S.N. CO., LTD.

"WARORA"	In Port		from Japan
	sails	8th April	for Singapore & Chittagong
"SANTHIA"	due	17th April	from Japan
	sails	19th April	for Singapore, Penang, Rangoon & Calcutta
"SANGOLA"	due	18th April	from Calcutta, Rangoon, Penang, & Singapore
	sails	19th April	for Japan

(These vessels have refrigerated cargo space)

P. & O./B. I. JOINT SERVICE

"OZARDA"	due	10th April	from Japan
	sails	11th April	for Singapore, Madras, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, & Persian Gulf
"ORMARA"	due	14th April	from Persian Gulf
	sails	15th April	for Japan
"ORDIA"	due	9th May	from Persian Gulf
	sails	10th May	for Japan

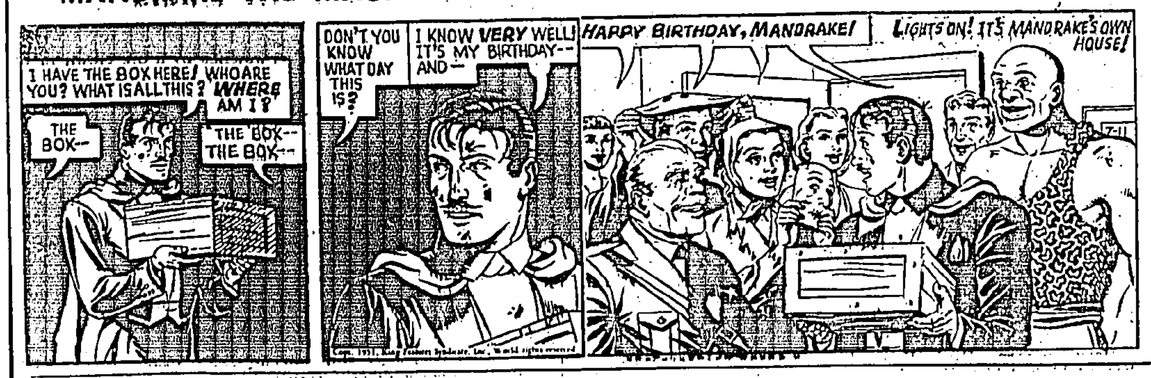
EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN S.S. CO., LTD.

"EASTERN"	due	16th April	from Sydney & Brisbane
	sails	18th April	for Japan
"NANKIN"	due	22nd April	from Japan
	sails	26th April	Sydney, Brisbane, Dunedin, Lyttelton & Auckland

All vessels have liberty to call at any ports on or off the route & the route & sailing are subject to change or amendment with or without notice.

For full particulars apply to
MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO.
Telephone Nos. 27721-4.

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN — By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



FERD'NAND — Half-baked — By Mik

Dine
At the
P. G.
For
Reservations Tel: 27880

Too Clever To Be At Liberty

London, Apr. 5.

The "lawyer" of Dartmoor and Parkhurst Prisons, who has helped to solve many legal problems, including matrimonial difficulties for long-term prisoners, has returned to his practice for another ten years.

Ernest Walter Silverman, 61-year-old clerk, of Gower-street, Bloomsbury, who has served 28 years in prison out of the past 32, was sentenced at the Old Bailey to ten years' preventive detention for a series of frauds.

When at liberty he was a frequent visitor to the Houses of Parliament and was friendly with many M.P.s. His brother, Mr Sydney Silverman, sits for Nelson and Colne. Ernest Silverman was described by Commissioner Sir Goodman Roberts, Q.C., as a "resourceful and clever man, who in the interests of the public cannot be allowed at large."

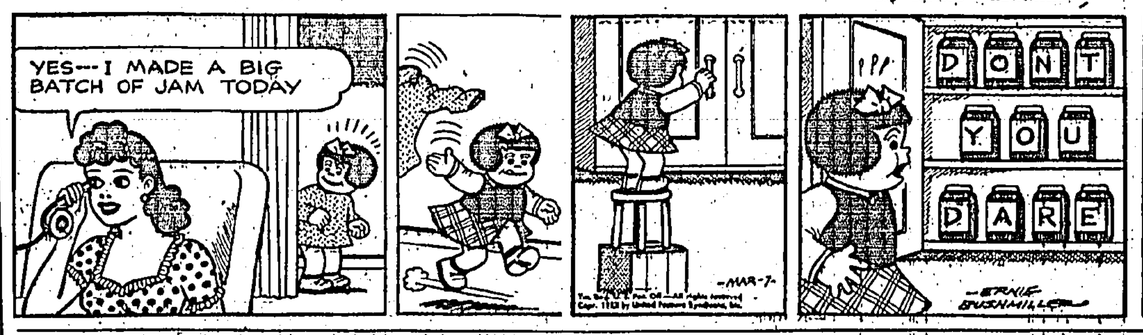
With his quicksilver brain and criminal mind, Ernest Silverman defrauded people in Glasgow, Manchester, Southport, Liverpool, and the West End of London while on the run from Scotland Yard.

Detective-Sergeant Ernest Millen, knowing that Silverman was a diabetic, circulated through the Police Gazette every police force in the country to interview chemists who might receive a call from a man seeking insulin.

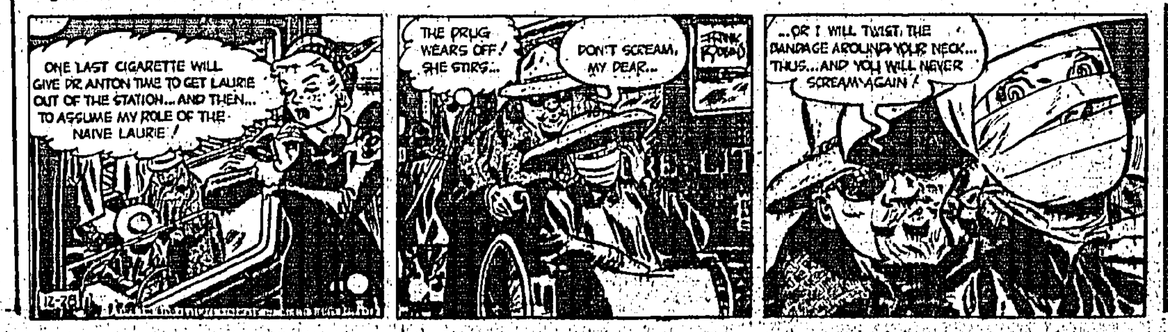
Yet, after this country-wide hunt, it was Sergeant Gulver who recognised him walking near the Charing Cross Hospital.

During his versatile career Silverman had spent four years as a solicitor's managing clerk, where he prepared more than 400 criminal cases, either for the defence or the prosecution. Solicitors had now been debarred by the Law Society from employing him.

NANCY — What A Jam! — By Ernie Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD — By Frank Robbins



FIAT
REPUBLIC MOTORS LTD

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

	Arriving	Leaving	Outward For
"MAPLE HILL"	Apr. 9		
"LAKE MICHIGAN" ..	Apr. 24	Apr. 29	Japan
			Homeward For
†"ZELIDJA"	In Port	Apr. 7	N. Africa & Europe
"LA MARSEILLAISE"	Apr. 11	Apr. 12	Marseilles via Manila
†"BEAUVAIS"	May 8	May 9	N. Africa & Europe

† freight for Saigon, Alexandria, Tunis, Genoa, Marseilles, Algiers, Oran, Tangier, Casablanca, Havre, Dunkirk, Antwerp, Rotterdam & all Mediterranean ports via Manila.

Subject To Change Without Notice.

CIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES
P.O. Box 53, Hongkong
Queen's Building (gr. floor) Tel. 26651 (3 lines).

MAERSK LINE

FAST FORTNIGHTLY SERVICE TO:
NEW YORK, BOSTON, BALTIMORE & PHILADELPHIA via SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES AND PANAMA.

NEXT SAILINGS

M.S.	"NICOLINE MAERSK"	Apr. 16
M.S.	"SALLY MAERSK"	May 2
M.S.	"LEXA MAERSK"	May 16

ARRIVALS FROM U.S.A.

M.S.	"LEXA MAERSK"	Apr. 18
M.S.	"LAURA MAERSK"	Apr. 28
M.S.	"LEISE MAERSK"	May 13

For Freight and Further Particulars please apply to:—

AGENTS:

JEBSEN & CO.
Pedder Building. Tel: Nos. 36066-9.

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY

QUIS NOS SEPARABIT

R.M.S. "CANTON"

NOTICE TO PASSENGERS

SAILS: FRIDAY the 11th April at 5.00 p.m. for the UNITED KINGDOM via Straits, Colombo, Bombay, Aden and Port Said.

BAGGAGE: ALL passengers baggage must be sent to the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf Co.'s Godown at No. 2 GATE, CANTON ROAD ENTRANCE BY NOON on THURSDAY, the 10th April, 1952.

SPECIAL NOTE: With the exception of hand packages carried by passengers themselves, ALL BAGGAGE must pass through the Wharf Co.'s Godown for loading on board by ship's slings only.

EMBARKATION: Will take place on Friday the 11th April between 2.30 p.m. and 4.00 p.m.

PATTISON ORIENT LINE LIMITED

s.s. "LAURE PATTISON"

Due From:	Sails For:
Japan, In Port.	DIRECT Pusan & Japan, Apr. 8th.

s.s. "ADELANTO"

Loading From:	Sails For:
Apr. 7th.	DIRECT Pusan Apr. 15th.

12-14 Queen's Road, Central. Tel. 25346.

CHINESE AGENTS:
OVERSEA CHINESE STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.
48, Bonham Strand, West,
Tels. 26127, 31118 & 31119.

MATTER OF CONFIDENCE

Improvement In Gold & Dollar Reserves

A Genuine Achievement To The Chancellor's Credit

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

London, Apr. 6.

The improvement in the Sterling Area's gold and dollar position during the first quarter of this year seems to have resulted almost entirely from a revival of confidence in Sterling following Mr Butler's Budget.

This impression is borne out by the fact that the gold and dollar loss in March was much smaller than in the preceding two months—$71 million against $299 million in January and $266 million in February.

This improvement took place, moreover, in the last 20 days of March during which time the behaviour of the foreign exchange markets demonstrated in dramatic fashion the efficacy of the bank rate as a weapon against speculators in Sterling.

While the sudden improvement in the gold and dollar position has been wholly a welcome development, too much stress cannot be laid on the psychological factors which lie behind it.

For this was an improvement based almost entirely on semi-speculative movements. The relief gained in this way, welcome as it is, must be regarded with caution; as "The Times" points out, "It depends entirely on confidence, which is a sensitive and delicate thing, and it could disappear in a moment if confidence failed."

But, although there is no cause for self-congratulation, the fact that the outflow of gold and dollars in March was down to less than one-third of the February figure marks a real achievement and credit for this must go to Mr Butler.

Crude though it undoubtedly is, the manipulation of the bank rate has proved to be a tremendously powerful factor in creating the right economic climate for a more lasting improvement in our external position.

WILL IT CONTINUE?

The question now is whether the recovery which took place in March will continue during the present and subsequent quarters.

Mr Butler, in his statement on the gold and dollar position, stressed the effect that non-recurring receipts had had on the March figures. These he estimated, amounted to no less than $75 million. They included the special sale to the United Kingdom of gold by South Africa amounting to $28 million; $10 million received under the Katz-Gaitskell agreement (covering the reimbursement to the United Kingdom of gold losses incurred from the use of existing Sterling balances by other members of the European Payments Union) and $35 million from special sales of rubber, tin and lead to the United States under the recent inter-governmental commodity agreements.

These receipts are all non-recurring in character though some part of them—for example, through payments for special commodity sales—will continue to benefit the reserves for some months.

GROUND FOR HOPE

On the other hand, the United Kingdom and Commonwealth import restrictions have not yet had their full effect and these can be counted on to play an increasingly important part in reducing the loss of gold and dollars.

American aid, which hardly affected the first quarter's figures, should bring further improvement in the present quarter.

All in all there seems reasonable ground to hope that the improvement will continue. A good deal still depends on the level of American buying of Sterling commodities, the prices of which have recently tended to drop, and also on the degree of success which attends the efforts made by the Commonwealth Sterling countries to bring their own payments into balance with the rest of the world.

But a lasting recovery must be based on more solid foundations. In the long run confidence in Sterling can only be maintained if our trading position shows real signs of improvement. And that is one of the least certain factors of our present situation.

Japanese Desire To Trade With Red China

Singapore, Apr. 6.

Japanese businessmen want to re-establish trade ties with Red China, but are hoping to be able to do it without rousing American ire, according to a Japanese journalist.

Rene-Georges Inahaki, en route to Montevideo, Uruguay, to work as correspondent for the Kyodo News Agency and Jiji Press, said in Singapore that Japanese businessmen, however, would do nothing to hinder the Japanese peace treaty.

He claimed that Japanese goods today were far superior to those of pre-war because they were subject to rigid tests before they left Japan. — Associated Press.

Distribution Of Sugar In U.S.

Washington, Apr. 6.

Sugar distribution in the continental United States during the week ending March 29, continued ahead of last year's figures during the same period, Agriculture Department statistics showed today.

The last week of March showed a distribution of 169,789 short tons, with the year's total 1,889,613. During the corresponding week in 1951, it showed 117,389 tons with the year's total of 1,715,675.—United Press.

Cotton Industry Wants Purchase Tax Abolished

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

London, Apr. 6.

A deputation from the cotton and rayon industries has called on the Government to abolish the purchase tax and the D-Scheme as they affect cotton and rayon goods.

The D-Scheme (this is the name given to the scheme proposed by the Douglas Committee) was introduced in the Budget to take the place of the old utility scheme of which the textile manufacturers themselves were among the strongest opponents.

Under the utility scheme an ever-widening range of textile goods were freed from the purchase tax and this was believed to have had a bad effect on Britain's textile exports.

The argument was that the incidence of the purchase tax on non-utility goods discouraged sales in the home market and therefore increased the risks involved in the production of better-quality goods for export.

The manufacturers claimed that concentration of home demand on utility goods deprived them of a "testing ground" for export lines and an alternative outlet for "frustrated" exports.

The D-Scheme was intended to meet this argument but instead it appears to have intensified it. Under this scheme all goods whose wholesale price falls below a certain level are free of tax while those above the so-called D-line are subject to purchase tax.

While this has the desired effect of smoothing out differences in price between tax-free and taxed goods, textile manufacturers believe the present scheme makes matters worse because the D-line has been set too low.

ABOLITION WANTED

Faced with a serious recession in trade they have now demanded complete abolition of the purchase tax on cotton and rayon goods in the hope that lower prices in the shop will revive the demand that has been so conspicuously absent in recent months.

The Government is therefore faced with a difficult problem. If they abolish the purchase tax on these goods the Exchequer stands to lose about £80 million a year. Even if that loss could be absorbed what guarantee have they that other industries, many of which are also suffering from consumer resistance, will not be encouraged to demand similar treatment?

The purchase tax provides nearly one-tenth of the whole tax income of the country and to abolish it altogether would not only deprive the Government of a powerful means of checking consumption but would also necessitate a rise in other forms of taxation to offset the loss of revenue.

The Government will also have to consider the effect that removal of the purchase tax from cotton and rayon goods would have on the longer-term problems of the textile trade.

THE EFFECT

Immediate effect of an abolition of this tax would undoubtedly be to start supplies moving again. With the uncertainty removed many people who have been waiting for prices to reach bottom before buying would replenish their stocks and this would ease the immediate situation.

But what would happen when that phase had passed? Sooner or later supply would again outstrip demand and the fundamental problem of over-production would reappear. The industry would have gained a brief respite, consumers would have had the benefit of cheap supplies and the only loser would be the Exchequer.

It is unlikely, therefore, that the Government will fall in with the industry's request for complete abolition of the purchase tax though it might offer some relief by raising the D-line on textiles and thus free a wider range of these goods from indirect taxation.

Some action of this sort is clearly required if only to give the textile industry breathing space in which to prepare itself for the stern task which awaits it in the wider field of world trade.

At any rate, the Government have been given the opportunity to review their whole policy regarding the purchase tax.

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Stock Exchange during this morning's session amounted to $404,850. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:—

SHARES	BUYERS	SELLERS	SALES
BANKS			
HK Bank ..	1370	1390	70 @ 1385
East Asia ..	140		
INSURANCES			
Canton		255	
Union	730		5 @ 735
			50 @ 735
Underwriters	4.70		
SHIPPING			
Asia Nav. ..	1.70	1.75	500 @ 1.70
DOCKS, ETC.			
K. Wharf XD		81	
N. Pt. Wharf	6.40	6.60	
Dock	16.60		
Provident XD		11¾	
Wheelock ...	45¾	46½	100 @ 46¼
LAND, ETC.			
HK Hotel XD	7.20		2000 @ 7.20
			1400 @ 7.30
HK Land (O) XD		44	
(B) nom.		42	
(Rts) nom. ..		17	
Humphreys ..		12¼ XD	
UTILITIES			
Tram XD ..	15		1500 @ 15.20
P. Tram (O)	24½		
P. Tram (N)	12½		
Star Ferry XD		100	
C. Light (O)	8.15	8.25	5300 @ 8.20
			500 @ 8.10
C. Light (N)		5½	
Electric XD ..	20	20¼	700 @ 20.20
Telephone ..	15¾	16	1000 @ 16
INDUSTRIALS			
Cement XD ..	13.20	13.60	
Hope XD	16¾		
STORES, ETC.			
Dairy XD ..	15¾	16¼	1500 @ 15.90
Watson		21¼	
L. Crawford	32		
COTTONS			
Ewo	2.20	2½	1000 @ 2.30
MISCELLANEOUS			
Yangtsze	5.40		1000 @ 5.30
			17,000 @ 5.40

Grain Prices In Chicago

Chicago, Apr. 5.

Grain futures were mostly steady with little change from Friday's closings. Much of Saturday's demand appeared to be week-end evening up pending developments over Sunday. Near the close, the market eased off.

Wheat futures closed ⅝ to ¾ cents a bushel lower, corn was ⅛ higher to ⅜ lower, oats 1¼ higher to ½ lower, rye ¼ higher to ¾ higher and soybeans ¼ higher to 1 lower.

Wheat—price per bushel:

Spot	2.51½ nominal
May	2.40½-⅝
July	2.40⅜-¾
September	2.42⅛
December	2.45⅜
Corn	
Spot	1.84 nominal
May	1.82⅞-1.83
July	1.84⅛-⅜
September	1.80
December	1.72¼
Rye	
May	1.90
July	1.94¾-1.95
Oats	
May	84⅛
July	81⅜-½

New York flour—per 200 lb. Sack, $13.30.—United Press.

Weekly Bank Statement

Paris, Apr. 6.

The Bank of France statement for the week ending March 27 reads as follows:—

	Frs.
Total gold holdings ..	191,446,676,926
Total of other currencies	3,552,943,203
Signt balance abroad	11,131,877,340
Advance to currency stabilisation fund ..	870,449,044,551
Bills discounted in France and abroad	—
Notes in circulation ..	1,891,091,422,725
Current accounts and deposits	204,572,058,360

—United Press.

Rubber Futures In S'pore

Singapore, Apr. 5.

Prices of rubber futures closed today as follows:—

Number 1 rubber, per lb.

May	109¼-110
June	108¼-¾
July	—
Number 2 rubber, May	107-108
Number 3 rubber, May	104-105
Number 4 rubber, May	99¼-101¼
Spot rubber, unbaled ...	110¼-111½
Blanket crepe	76-78
No. 1 pal. crepe	130-135

—United Press.

Exchange Rates

Business was done in the local unofficial exchange market this morning at the following rates:—

U.S. dollar (per $1)	6.48
Sterling note (per $1)	15.84
Indonesia guilders (per 100) ...	3.00
Siam ticals (per 100)	20.80
Singapore (Straits)	1.74
FMS piastres (per 100)	14.30

ROYAL INTEROCEAN LINES

SAILINGS			To
"EASTWAY"	Apr.	8th	Singapore, Djakarta & Belawan Deli
"VAN HEUTSZ"	Apr.	8th	Singapore & East Africa
"STRAAT SOENDA"	Apr.	8th	Manila, Singapore, Mombasa & L. Marques & S. Africa
"TJIBODAS"	Apr.	11th	Djakarta, Tjirebon, Semarang, Surabaia & Macassar
"TASMAN"	Apr.	12th	Japan
"TASMAN"	Apr.	30th	Singapore, Penang & Belawan Deli
"TJIWANGI"	May	2nd	Singapore, Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaia & Macassar
"TJIPONDOK"	May	7th	Djakarta, Tjirebon, Semarang, Surabaia & Macassar
"STRAAT MAKASSAR"	May	9th	Manila, Singapore, Mauritius, S. Africa & S. America
"EASTWAY"	May	10th	Japan
"TEGELBERG"	May	13th	Japan
"TJILUWAH"	May	16th	Singapore, Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaia & Macassar
"RUYS"	May	22nd	Japan
"TASMAN"	May	24th	Japan
"TJIKAMPER"	May	27th	Djakarta, Tjirebon, Semarang, Surabaia & Macassar.
"TJIWANGI"	June	2nd	Singapore, Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaia & Macassar
"TEGELBERG"	June	9th	Manila, Singapore, Mauritius, S. Africa & S. America
"TJIBODAS"	June	13th	Djakarta, Tjirebon, Semarang, Surabaia & Macassar
"TJILUWAH"	June	16th	Singapore, Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaia & Macassar
"TJIPANAS"	June	17th	Japan
"TJIWANGI"	July	2nd	Singapore, Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaia & Macassar
"VAN HEUTSZ"	July	7th	Japan
"TJIPANAS"	July	8th	Manila, Singapore, Penang, & E. & S. Africa
"TJIPONDOK"	July	8th	Djakarta, Tjirebon, Semarang, Surabaia & Macassar
"RUYS"	July	9th	Manila, Singapore, Mauritius, S. Africa & S. America
"TJILUWAH"	July	16th	Singapore, Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaia & Macassar

ARRIVALS			From
"TASMAN"	Apr.	10th	Penang, Belawan Deli, Palembang, Djakarta & Singapore
"TJILUWAH"	Apr.	13th	Macassar, Surabaia, Semarang, Djakarta & Singapore
"TJIWANGI"	Apr.	28th	Singapore, Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaia & Macassar
"EASTWAY"	May	10th	Djakarta, Belawan Deli & Singapore

General Agents,

HOLLAND EAST ASIA LINE

SAILINGS TO EUROPE

"ARENDSKERK"	Apr.	7th
"KIELDRECHT"	May	8th
"AAGTEKERK"	June	7th
"BLITAR"	July	7th

SAILING FROM EUROPE		Sails Rotterdam	Arrives Hongkong
"KIELDRECHT"	Sailed	Mar. 5th	Apr. 10th
"AAGTEKERK"		Apr. 5th	May 10th
"BLITAR"		May 2nd	June 7th
"HOOGKERK"		May 28th	July 4th
"ARENDSKERK"		July 2nd	Aug. 7th

KINGS BUILDING TELEPHONES 28015 TO 28017
AGENTS FOR CONNAUGHT ROAD C. (H.K.) LTD.

BEN LINE

FAST SERVICE TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT

BY

S.S. "BENCRUACHAN"

Loading Hongkong 14th and 15th April

DIRECT FOR SINGAPORE
THENCE
HAVRE, LONDON AND HAMBURG.

W.R. LOXLEY & CO., (CHINA) LTD.
York Building. Tel. 34165 & 38710.

M.V. "LA MARSEILLAISE"

will sail for

MARSEILLES

via

MANILA, SAIGON, SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, DJIBOUTI, SUEZ & PORT SAID

on

Saturday, the 12th April, at 10 P.M.

Passengers are requested to board the vessel with their cabin baggage on the 12th April between 5 P.M. and 9 P.M.

Baggage Room and Hold Baggage will be registered at Kowloon Godown No. 50 (No. 2 Gate Canton Road, Entrance) on the 11th April between 2 P.M. and 5 P.M. and 12th April from 9 A.M. to NOON.

No baggage will be registered after this time.

Compagnie Des Messageries Maritimes
Queen's Building. Tel: 26651.

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Japan's Textile Industry Also Has Its Troubles

Tokyo, Apr. 7.

Japan's bid to regain top place in the world textile markets is meeting with severe, but possibly temporary, setbacks.

Manufacturers say that British interests have nothing to fear from Japanese competitors, at least in the near future. Foreign textile experts here agree that numerous unfavourable factors must temporarily seriously hamper Japan's textile exports.

They also say that Lancashire has nothing to fear from Japanese competitors, at least until Japan gets herself out of her present difficult financial position.

The Japanese Government is now urging textile exporters to cut shipments to the sterling area, Japan's biggest customer. It has even taken action to restrict manufacture.

But textile companies are opposing this on the grounds that the trade and financial situation will naturally restrict their export output.

Some companies may make voluntary cuts of up to 40 per cent in monthly production.

The Government's move was inspired by doubts as to the wisdom of further building up sterling holdings, already more than £90 million—though fears for the future of sterling were partially allayed by consideration of Britain's recent "save the pound" budget—and a desire to cut production in order to stabilise textile prices.

IMPEDING FACTORS

Both Japanese and foreign textile men here agree that the following factors, some of them admittedly temporary, are impeding the Japanese textile export programme:

1. A general world slump in textile demands, difficulty in overcoming shortages bred of World War II and a general world shortage of money, causing import restrictions. They believe that this money shortage will be temporary and hope that satisfactory demands will reappear by the middle of 1953.

2. A choked supply line all the way from manufacturer to foreign consumer. Japanese factories have stockpiles of yarn, cloth and piece-goods which local exporters are not willing to handle. Local exporters have stock piles which they are unwilling to sell at the present low prices because they overbought at high prices last year. Foreign consumers filled their needs last year and have enough cotton goods to carry them over the next 12 months at least. Once again, Japanese and foreigners agree, this could be temporary.

RESTRICTIONS

3. The Government is applying restrictions on exports to the sterling area. Exporters believe, however, that Japan's big accumulation of sterling will be greatly cut within the year.

4. There is a shortage of funds for buying raw cotton. Many manufacturers agree that they over-expanded their plants during the last two years when the textile market was paying them top dividends. The nation's manufacturers are now reducing total spindles from approximately 6,500,000 to 5,000,000. With this reduction will come big staff cuts. The over-expansion cost them capital which they could now use for buying raw cotton.

5. American raw cotton credits have been cut. The Occupation's former valuable assistance in the form of cotton credits has disappeared. The only direct American assistance likely this year is a 40,000,000 dollar cotton credit granted by the United States Export-Import Bank. In addition, the disappearance of easy-to-get American raw cotton has forced the Japanese to seek their cotton in more expensive sterling area markets such as Pakistan.

6. An additional minor hardship has been wage increases for local textile employees. Female workers, the biggest group of textile personnel, have received almost 100 per cent wage increases over the past two years.

FAVOURABLE FACTORS

Favourable factors appearing on the balance sheet include:

1. Japan is showing increasing ability to export her textiles in her own ships.

2. There is a re-combining of former "Zaibatsu" companies, broken up by the Allies during the Occupation.

It is agreed that the overall state of Japan's textile industry is good. The surrender found Japan with less than 2,000,000 of her pre-war 12,000,000 spindles working. Most were in bad condition. She had no markets and no ships to carry textiles.

Rapid expansion, assisted by the benevolent American Occupation, brought Japan's spindleage to 6,500,000 by the end of 1951, though this later proved to be over-expansion. From about 50,000 looms in operation in 1947, Japanese weavers expanded operations to employ more than 150,000 looms last year.

Probably the biggest dilemma at present facing manufacturers here is whether to unload stocks at present cheap prices in an effort to get trade running smoothly again, or whether to hold stocks in the hope of better prices.—Reuter.

Gunmen Lay Ambush

Bogota, Apr. 6.

Gunmen yesterday killed eight members of an official party which was returning to Ibague after conciliatory talks between political factions at Libano, newspapers here reported today.

The party included Senor Enrique Urdaneta, youngest son of the Acting President of Colombia.

Eight of the party were killed and three wounded in a gun battle that followed the ambush laid by the desperadoes.—Reuter.

Generous United States

Washington, Apr. 7.

The United States spent $39,000,000,000 between the end of the war and the beginning of 1952 to help bolster the economies and defence efforts of free nations, it was announced here today.

In addition, $16,200,000,000 remained available at the end of 1951 for further deliveries and credits under United States foreign aid programmes.

These figures were given by the United States Commerce Department's business economics office in a report on foreign assistance which was released here today.

The European recovery programme up to the end of 1951 accounted for $11,400,000,000 of post-war assistance given by the United States.

1951 PAYMENTS

During 1951, United States gross foreign aid in the form of grants and credits amounted to $5,020,000,000, an increase of $393,000,000 of foreign grant funds carried over from 1951 and earmarked for military aid to the free world.

In addition, $1,000,000,000 in credits are already committed to foreign countries and $1,800,000,000 in authorisations are available for credit commitment.

Military aid under programmes combined into the mutual security programme totalled $1,600,000,000 in 1951. This represented a $1,000,000,000 increase over 1950.

Despite increased expenditures for military aid, the mutual security programme, economic and technical assistance declined only slightly — from $2,800,000,000 in 1950 to $2,600,000,000 in 1951.—Reuter.

Firemen's Fight To Save Ship

Perth, Apr. 6.

Firemen battled for three hours today to control a blaze in the 6,000-ton British-owned freighter Swan Valley, which brought a cargo of 9,000 tons of Indian coal to Australia.

The Swan Valley berthed at Fremantle today after a 750 miles dash with her burning cargo across the Indian Ocean. Firemen and crew poured water into the holds at a rate of 200 tons an hour before the blaze was brought under control.

The Swan Valley arrived off Fremantle yesterday with smoke seeping from her ventilators and from under her hatch covers.—Reuter.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith

T. M. REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.
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"She's right, he is a dashing boy—but couldn't he do his dashing outside of a car?"

New Yorkers Angered By Plane Crash

New York, Apr. 6.

Angry New Yorkers today demanded strict safety precautions—even the closing of New York's two main airports—for aircraft flying over the dense suburb where a cargo plane crashed yesterday, killing five people.

The crash, the fifth in a series in Greater New York, which have cost 124 lives, started a new chain of demands that airports be placed well away from heavily populated areas.

Queen's Borough (on Long Island), the scene of the latest crash, lies between La Guardia Airport and Idlewild. Dozens of planes a day circle for landing only a few hundred feet above tall blocks of flats and clusters of houses.

Newark Airport, across the Hudson River, has been closed since three planes crashed in two months in the New Jersey suburb of Elizabeth, killing 119 people. Traffic diverted to La Guardia and Idlewild fields has increased the risk of disaster there, residents of Queen's Borough claim.

Local civil organisations are demanding the closing of the two airports or that planes should make the approaches over the bays and rivers surrounding Long Island instead of over the residential area.

MAYOR'S ACTION

New York's Mayor, Mr Vincent Impelliteri, has summoned representatives of the Civil Aeronautics Board, the Civil Aeronautics Administration and air line officials to a special "safety" conference tomorrow.

Twenty-five people died in two other American air disasters this week-end.

Early today a B-29 weather reconnaissance plane returning from a flight over the Pacific exploded in mid-air and crashed near Sacramento, California, killing all the 10 members of the crew.

On Friday night two Air Force transports collided north of Mobile, Alabama, killing 15 people when they plunged to the ground locked together and in flames.

An eight weeks' old baby boy was rushed to Washington for an emergency operation and his parents were among the dead.—Reuter.

Success In Sight

Paris, Apr. 6.

French Premier Antoine Pinay's Budget is expected to surmount its last main obstacle in the National Assembly on Tuesday and will probably become law before Easter after passing through the Senate later this week.

M. Pinay, a Moderate Conservative and the third Premier to try to put the country's 1952 Budget through Parliament, is sure he will win all 10 confidence votes on his Budget in the Assembly.

His optimism, he said, is based on the belief that this time the country is behind the Government.

The confidence motions to be voted on Tuesday are:

Firstly, a clause freezing 100,000 million francs of credits for reconstruction and investment until new loans can be raised to cover them.

Secondly, a clause permitting the Government to cut 100,000 million francs of civil expenditure.

Thirdly, a reduction of death duties.

Fourthly, an amnesty for tax dodgers.

Fifthly to ninthly, clauses to tighten up prevention of tax evasion in the future, and

Tenthly, the Budget as a whole.—Reuter.

Assault Charge Against Soldier

Private P. W. G. Little, 24, of the 1st Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers, appeared before Mr Hin-shing Lo at Central this morning charged with assault on a woman, Wong Kwan-ying.

Pleading not guilty, defendant was remanded in military custody and date of hearing was fixed for April 28 at 2.30 p.m.

Defendant is alleged to have accosted complainant at Queen's Road East near Anton Street at 1.35 a.m. on Sunday. Complainant who ignored defendant's remarks was pushed to the ground and received a cut on her mouth. Defendant was arrested by SI Bennet.

HUSBAND WAS A WOMAN

Vichy, Apr. 6.

The Civil Court of nearby Gannat has dissolved a marriage which lasted happily for 12 years after the police found out that the husband was a woman.

The marriage took place quietly in August, 1948, between Jean-Gabriel Fardet and Madame Forest, a widow with two children. It was recently discovered that Jean-Gabriel, aged 51, was a woman. She had worked as a lemonade vendor.—Reuter.

Living Language

Why we say Tell it to the marines.

This retort means simply "I don't believe it" or "you're a liar" and comes from the King of England who, when told by a naval officer that he'd seen fish fly, replied: "Tell it to my Marines." But His Majesty meant only that, as the Marines had travelled all over the world, if they believed the story, he would.

Mail Notices

Latest times of posting of unregistered correspondence at the General Post Office and Kowloon Post Office; the latest times of posting for registered articles are generally one hour earlier than the times indicated below. Particulars regarding parcel mails may be obtained by enquiry at any Post Office.

MONDAY, APRIL 7
By Air

Japan, 5 p.m., B.O.A.C.
Formosa, Okinawa, U.S.A., Canada, 5 p.m., N.W.A.L.
Philippines, N. Borneo, 5 p.m., C.P.A.
Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, 5 p.m., C.P.A.
By Surface
Macao, 12.30 p.m.; 6 p.m., ss Lee Hong/Tak Shing.
Philippines, East & South Africa, 5 p.m., ss Strait Scendia.

TUESDAY, APRIL 8
By Air

Indo-China, (Tonkin only), 8 a.m., via C.P.A.
Formosa, 9 a.m., C.A.T.
Indo-China, France, French North & West Africa, 10.30 a.m., Air France.
Siam, Burma, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain, Europe, 12.30 p.m., B.O.A.C.
N. Borneo, Australia, New Zealand, 5 p.m., Q.E.A.
Formosa, Japan, 5 p.m., Thai Airways.
By Surface
Macao, 12.30 p.m.; 6 p.m., ss Lee Hong/Tak Shing.
China, People's Republic, 8.30 a.m., train via Canton.
Japan, Canada, 10 a.m., ss Ocean Mail.
Indo-China, 10 a.m., ss Eastway.
Korea, 9 a.m., ss Laure Pattison.
Philippines, 10 a.m., ss Fernplant.
East Africa, 10 a.m., ss Van Heutsz.
Malaya, Noon, ss Glengyle.
Siam, 2 p.m., ss Sinkiang.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9
By Air

Philippines, Guam, Hawaii, U.S.A., Canada, 8 a.m., via P.A.L.
Malaya, Ceylon, Pakistan, Bahrein, Great Britain, Europe, 8 a.m., B.O.A.C.
Formosa, Japan, 9 a.m., C.A.T.
U.S.A., Canada, 2 p.m., P.A.A.
Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, 5 p.m., C.P.A.
Japan, Korea, 5 p.m., B.O.A.C.
Formosa, 5 p.m., H.K. Airways.
By Surface
Macao, 12.30 p.m.; 6 p.m., ss Lee Hong/Tak Shing.
China, People's Republic, 8.30 a.m., train via Canton.
Philippines, Noon, ss Nikobar.
Japan, 2 p.m., ss Yochow

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE ANSWERS

1. Benjamin Franklin; 2. Hurstmonceaux Castle; 3. Grapes; 4. One who has suddenly obtained wealth or position beyond his birth or worth; an upstart; 5. The Portuguese in 1500; 6. Pitcairn Island.

INTELLIGENCE TEST SOLUTION

THIS test looks difficult, but isn't. Suppose that there are n nephews, and p pots.
Then, in respect of each pot, the amount distributed by Uncle James is
(5 (n−1)−10; i.e., 5 (5n−15).
So p (5n−15)=510.
This equation has several solutions:

n:	4	3	6	9
p:	102	51	34	17

But the first is excluded by there not being 102 pots; the third and fourth by the fact that two nephews get 15 pots each and the others at least one. Hence there are five nephews and 51 pewter pots So Sloggins receives £175 less £150, i.e., £25.

London Express Service.

Court Action Defence Founded On United States Trade Embargo

The United States embargo on strategic materials to China was raised as a defence in an action for damages which commenced before the Chief Justice, Sir Gerard Howe, in the Supreme Court this morning.

The claim was for $224,419, and was brought by the China Mutual Trading Co., Ltd. of Nos. 13-27 Ice House Street, against the American President Lines, Ltd. a company incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware, USA, and with offices in Hongkong at St George's Building, Chater Road.

Plaintiffs claimed (1) the delivery of 11 cases card clothing for cotton (textile), carding machinery (mill machinery parts), three cases text-books and technical periodicals, eight cases fibre board sheets (paper), 22 fibre drums of Aspirin powder, 17 cases of fibre board sheets (paper), 40 drums of Sulfaguanadine, five fibre drums Sulphadiazine USP, 16 drums Sulfadiazine USP. powder, 20 crates and three boxes photographers' tanks, one carton of photographers' materials NOIBN, one carton of blocks NOIBN; or their value and damages for detaining the same;

(2) Alternatively, damages for conversion of the said goods;

(3) Injunction restraining the defendants by themselves, their servants and agents or otherwise from parting with the possession of or removing or in any way interfering with the said goods;

(4) Alternatively, for delivery of the said goods under divers contracts of carriage and damages for delay in delivering the same.

Mr Percy Chen and Mr D. A. L. Wright, both instructed by Mr A. S. K. Lau, appeared for the plaintiffs. The Hon. Leo d'Almada, QC, and Mr Brook A. Bernacchi, both instructed by Mr P. J. Griffiths, were for the defendants.

It was agreed between Counsel that the onus was on the Defence to begin.

Mr d'Almada said plaintiffs' claim was based on three bills of lading by which the defendants received certain goods to be transported to Hongkong and of which the plaintiffs were the owners.

BASED ON US LAW

Counsel said defendants' case was based on American law and on regulations issued by the United States Department of Commerce by which the goods were covered and under which the defendants claimed they were protected.

A number of extracts from these regulations which forbade the export of a variety of goods to places in the Far East, including Hongkong and Macao, whereby the cargoes might be destined for Communist China, were read by Counsel, who added that the Defence also based their case on a refusal by plaintiffs to give an undertaking that the goods would not be sent to Communist China, and on the allegations that plaintiffs were the agents for the Central People's Government.

The amount of damages had been agreed between the parties and were based on a certain rate of exchange. It now amounted to $224,419.

The goods, said Counsel, were discharged into the Kowloon Godowns on December 10, 1950, and from thence were held to the order of the defendants, and it was Counsel's submission that they were still under the defendants' control as if they were still on board the Mount Davis on which they had arrived in the Colony.

Shortly after the cargo had been discharged, the defendants received communications from their head office informing defendants that the Department of Commerce had issued regulations prohibiting the delivery of goods carried in American vessels to Communist China.

LETTERS EXCHANGED

A number of letters passed between defendants and the plaintiffs, in which defendants were asked to give a undertaking not to re-export the goods to Communist China. They refused to give such an undertaking although they were most anxious to obtain delivery of the goods, said Counsel.

Defendants justified their refusal to deliver the goods by reason of certain circumstances, Counsel continued. Mere refusal to give up possession was not enough: there must be wrongful refusal to give up possession.

Mr d'Almada also referred to a telegram received from Mr Dean Acheson, the U.S. Secretary of State, and said it was clear from that telegram that had the goods been delivered by the defendants to the plaintiffs, that action would have subjected the defendants to sanctions by the United States Government. The defence on which the defendants relied upon was good against the plaintiffs in their claim either on contract or on tort, he submitted. The essence of the plaintiffs' case was "strong-hand methods," but the exercise of superior force was unnecessary where it could be shown that that force could at some time be exercised.

Counsel cited numerous authorities in support of his argument.

The hearing is proceeding.

Prompt Action Averts Serious Fire

A small fire broke out on the first floor of the Tung Lee Feather Works Godown, Belchers Street, at about 10.30 a.m. today and was put out by the Fire Brigade shortly after arrival.

Some bundles of feather had ignited and but for the quick arrival of seven appliances from Central, Eastern and Western, the blaze would have assumed serious proportions. Fire-fighting operations were directed by Mr W. J. Gorman, Chief Fire Officer, assisted by Mr Wong Wai-tsoi, Station Officer.

Insp. A. Morrison, OC Western Police Station, was in charge of the Police who cordoned off all approaches leading to the scene of the fire.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T.

6. Programme Summary; 6.02, Children's Half Hour presented by Elizabeth Ann (Studio); 6.30, Portuguese Half Hour (Studio); 7, London Studio Melodies (BBCTS)—Eric Robinson and his Orchestra with Kay Cavendish (Piano); 7.30, World Health Day—A Talk by Dr Reynolds of the World Health Organisation (Recorded); 7.45, Artist of the Week —Gerard Souzay (Baritone); 7.50, Weather Report; 8, Time Signal, World News and News Analysis (London Relay); 8.15, Andre Kostelanetz and his Orchestra play Successes of Vincent Youmans; 8.30, I Like What I Like, presented by Ronald Brain (Studio); 9, A Group of Chopin Waltzes played by Dinu Lipatti; 9.15, "King of Sorrows" (Studio)—A Play for Holy Week from "The Man born to be King"; A Play-Cycle on the Life of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, written for Broadcasting by Dorothy L. Sayers—presented by Christ Church, Kowloon Tong; 10.15, Concerto—Concertante Sinfonie for Violin and Viola (Mozart, K. 364)—Albert Sammons (Violin) and Lionel Tertis (Viola) with the London Philharmonic Orch. cond. by Sir Hamilton Hartys; 10.45, Chanson Francaise; 11, Radio Newsreel (London Relay); 11.15, Goodnight Music; 11.29, Weather Report: God Save The Queen; 11.30, Close down.

Landslide In Magazine Gap Rd.

Traffic along Magazine Gap Road was interrupted yesterday when, due to the rains, a small landslide occurred just below the Gap. A large tree unloosened by the fall lay across the road. The blockage was removed by late afternoon.

No further landslides were reported last night or this morning.

From The Files

100 Years Ago

Criminal Sessions

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. S. Appleton, J. Lemon, R.B. Sherard, L. Gutierres, F. Chomley, and A. Lyons.

C. G. Sheffield, charged with assisting in desertion, pleaded not guilty.

A. Rutherford, formerly a Police constable, declined to be sworn until he got his expenses; they were promised to him—being sworn he said, I went on board the "Hibernia" on the 7th February last, for the purpose of searching for deserters, from the 59th Regiment. I found two—John Davis and Michael Conner, and a seaman. I had nothing to say to the prisoner. I found the soldiers stowed away in the hold; the prisoner was on deck, in the waist of the ship.

John Davis—This was one of the deserters apprehended, and for the desertion he had been sentenced by the military authorities to two years imprisonment and hard labour. Davis seemed to think the justice of the case fully answered, and declined being sworn. The court was at a nonplus—threat of a commital was of no avail. John stood secure in his impenetrable armour of two years in the stone jug with hard labour, so the Judge having given him a severe reprimand, which we rather imagine was a waste of good indignation, John retired to "dree his weird" with such other extra punishment as his military superiors might think fit to impose upon him for baulking justice.

JOSEPH SCHOENTJES, a similar charge to the preceding.—The evidence being altogether depositions, and of rather a loose character, the jury returned a verdict of "not guilty".

MATHEW HOPKINS, a similar charge.—The principal witness, Peter Boyce, was sufficiently positive in his direct testimony, but on cross-examination broke down both his credibility and his proof. There the matter might have been left to the jury, but apparantly the counsel for defence wanted to send his client from the bar thoroughly cleared of the charge, and made a defence, calling witnesses; but it did not appear that the defence made the case any better than at the break down of the crown witness. The jury returned a verdict of "not guilty."

OVER-PROVED CASE

CHOW-A-SEND and SOO ASHING, charged with piracy, pleaded not guilty.—This was one of the usual small piracy cases, and it was stated that one witness would identify one of the prisoners, and another witness the other. But on Yaong Ahkwei, the master of the plundered boat, being put into the witness box, it was soon apparant the Attorney-General had not made sufficient allowance for the awakening of the recollecting and identifying powers of Chinamen, for the witness swore to both prisoners; thus over proving and not improving his case; so both the Judge and the Attorney-General thought it of no use going further, and the jury agreeing, returned a verdict "not guilty."

CHOW ATAY, charged with robbery with violence in one count, and attempt to murder by drowning in another, pleaded not guilty.

Dyer Starks, a quartermaster on board the U.S. Steam-frigate "Susquehanna," was on shore making purchases — among others of a kettle which he paid for, and on coming out of the shop he put his purse which was fastened to his person, containing $5, into his breast. The prisoner accosted him and asked if he wanted a boat—he said he did, and gave the prisoner the kettle to carry—and they went to, the wharf near Mr Adam Scott's house, where, while waiting for a boat, Starks was seized from behind, and the prisoner cut away his purse, and the parties holding him then threw him into the water, where he was struck with some heavy instrument. The prisoner was seized as he was running away by a Policeman, Starks identified him. The jury returned a verdict of "guilty," and the prisoner was sentenced to fifteen years transportation.

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